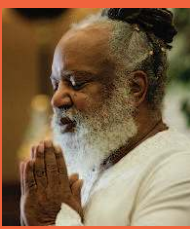


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The Anchorage Press is a news, opinion, features, arts, entertainment and recreation paper. Established in 1992, the Press is printed weekly on Thursdays and distributed throughout Anchorage and the surrounding area.

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It's time to get back out there!

BY O'HARA SHIPE

I had a few major goals when I assumed the helm as the Managing Editor for the Press. The first was to build on the Press' legacy of inclusion and representation. The second was to return the Press to its alt-weekly roots by focusing on arts and entertainment coverage. So, when our team decided it was high time we had an arts and entertainment special edition, I was elated. For the last two weeks, I delved into every corner of the Anchorage arts scene, and it was an eye-opening experience. I have been ensconced in the city's music scene for almost a decade – I actually got my start as a photographer by photographing Local Roots shows at Koot's. However, as the last 14 days showed me, I have only been scratching the surface of what is a bigger scene than I could ever imagine.

On Saturday, September 24, I once again found myself in the dimly lit Ice Bar at Koot's but instead of the regulars – The Jephries and Estate Sale – I was greeted by influencers in Anchorage's underground hip-hop movement. The first to perform was Jay Simmons. Alaska's version of Lil Nas X, Simmons dropped powerhouse hooks and dance moves in front of a packed house who didn't miss parroting back a single verse. He was followed by Jay Reeder and AG & DC – all of whom threw down in epic fashion. Although I didn't get to see the headlining Brother Buffalo, I went home fully hyped about seeing all these performers again.

But a flourishing hip-hop scene was only one of the eye-openers. The second was seeing firsthand how much Anchorage drag has grown since COVID. From Friday to Sunday, I saw five different shows featuring boylesque, kings, and all manner of queens. Of course, some artists like Lamia Monroe and De La Rosa were doing double-time performing at multiple shows last weekend. Nevertheless, seeing newer queens like Beyquance and Brenden Badd shake their groove thing was heartening. It was also amazing to see drag kings like Jasper Dragful, Mx. Mars Monroe, and Dr. Feelgood throw down unforgettable lip syncs.

The only thing that put a slight damper on my weekend jubilation was learning that the Anchorage Concert Association, as well as other live arts organizations, are struggling to fill seats this fall.

"You know, I think that people have just gotten comfortable with staying home and watching Netflix over the last two years," Anchorage Concert Association Executive Director Jason Hodges said. "I don't know what it would take to have another paradigm shift, but I am hoping it happens."

Hodges' words echoed in my head as I looked at the Concert Association's incredible fall lineup. How could shows like Eisenhower Dance Detroit, The Suffers, the Portland Cello Project, and the Blue Man Group not be attracting patrons? Then I remembered that I, too, have fallen into a pattern of devaluing live performances since the world stopped in 2020. I haven't been avoiding going to the Performing Arts



Center on purpose – it just stopped being a part of my routine two years ago, and I have yet to add it back in.

Sadly, the consequence of Anchorage's arts patrons not attending as many live performances is reduced income and therefore booking power for organizations like the Concert Association.

"Alaska is already a tough sell for major acts because it requires them to take several days off from a busy tour season which results in lost income for the performer. When you factor in fewer ticket sales, booking gets that much harder," explained Hodges.

So, what can we as a community do to keep the scene alive and well? It's simple. We can buy tickets to shows rather than ask for comps. We can forgo the movies for the real thing. We can share selfies taken at events on social media and tell our friends what they're missing by staying home. As we all know, FOMO is a powerful tool.

As you flip through this week's edition, I hope you feel inspired to get back out there and enjoy Anchorage's art scene. And maybe, just maybe, you'll be inclined to purchase a ticket to an upcoming performance.

O'Hara Shipe
Managing Editor

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From the heart

Orquesta Akokan brings Cuban flare to Anchorage on Friday

BY ESTRELLA RODRIGUEZ-NORTHCUTT AND
O'HARA SHIPE

While Anchorage's music scene is filled with a diverse catalog of musical talents, when it comes to Latin music, there is very little representation despite Hispanic people making up eight percent of Alaska's population. Currently, there is only one active Mariachi band in Anchorage, Mariachi Agave Azul, and their performances are few and far between. As music plays a crucial role in Hispanic and Latin American cultures, the lack of local musical representation is felt extremely hard during Hispanic Heritage Month, which is why the arrival of Cuba-no-band Orquesta Akokan this Friday is so important for Anchorage.

Led by Jose "Pepito" Gomez, Akokan celebrates Cuban heritage through their synergy of contemporary sensibilities, mixed with a deep spiritual reservoir and knowledge of folkloric traditions. The band's diverse portfolio propels their music into previously uncharted vistas while dismantling the conventions of what is traditionally considered mambo.

"It's so important to appreciate our ancestors because they are the base of what our music is founded on – this is the music of our ancestors. To us, it's important to reflect and show our music culturally and pass it on just like our ancestors did. They're the ones that paved the way for today's Cuban music in Latin America and the US. Having ancestral sounds in our new music and remembering where that music came from is what we strive to do. We don't want to copy it, but reimagine it," says Gomez in his native Spanish.

In Cuba, mambo started as a form of social and political expression in the 1930s. Closely tied to the dance style of the same name, mambo music originated as a syncopated form of danzón-mambo, which is renowned for its highly improvised style.

Cuban flautist Antonio Arcaño described mambo music as follows: "Mambo is a type of syncopated montuno that possesses the rhythmic charm, informality and eloquence of the Cuban people. The pianist attacks the mambo, the flute picks it up and improvises, the violin executes rhythmic chords in double stops, the double bass inserts a tumbao, the timbalero plays the cowbell, the güiro scrapes and plays the maracas rhythm, the indispensable tumba (conga drum) reaffirms the bass tumbao and strengthens the timbal.



Photo by Camila Falquez

By the 1940s, mambo had made its way to Mexico City where melded with influences from North American jazz. Soon, mambo became an internationally recognized musical genre and the original iterations of the music began to be shed from the new sound. Through generations of cultural appropriation, Cuban mambo morphed into a hybrid of everyone who touched it.

The sonic mixing of genres is nothing new, but to Gomez and his bandmates, there is value in reclaiming what was lost.

"Music is a huge part of Cuban culture, and realistically, music plays a role in all aspects of my country. It is a key principle in filling us with happiness, and laughter all the time, every day," explains Gomez.

But there is pressure in being a cultural bearer for the entire country.

"I grew up in Camaguey and I'm not from Havana, so when I started, I felt that I was only making music for a small region of Cuba. But when I visited Havana and connected with other musicians, Akokan, took on a new meaning. We were making music for my entire country, not just one region," says Gomez.

Despite the pressure, Akokan and Gomez have risen to the challenge with their debut and sophomore albums. They even picked up a Grammy nomination for their efforts.

"[Our second album], '16 Rayos,' has more ripeness because with time we've developed our musical composition and grown into the unique sound that the band has created," says Gomez, "I think that in '16 Rayos,' you can hear the maturity of our sound."

You can savor Orquesta Akokan's tribute to Cuba on Friday, September 30 at 7:30pm at the Performing Arts Center. Tickets start at \$24.75 and are available at CenterTix.com. Just make sure to bring your dancing shoes.

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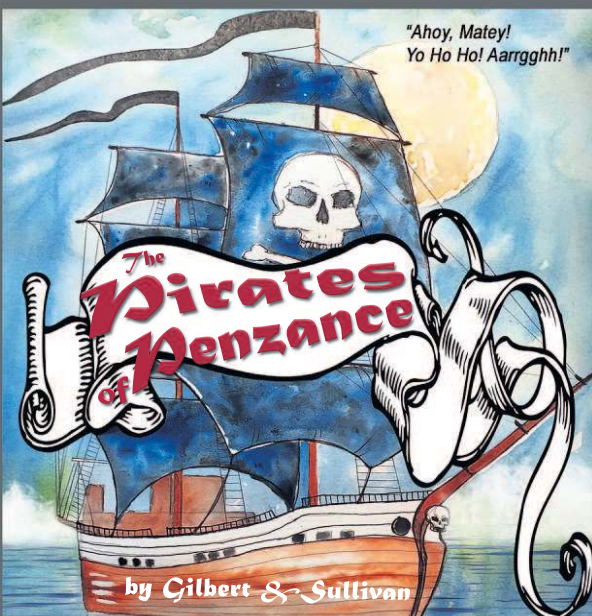
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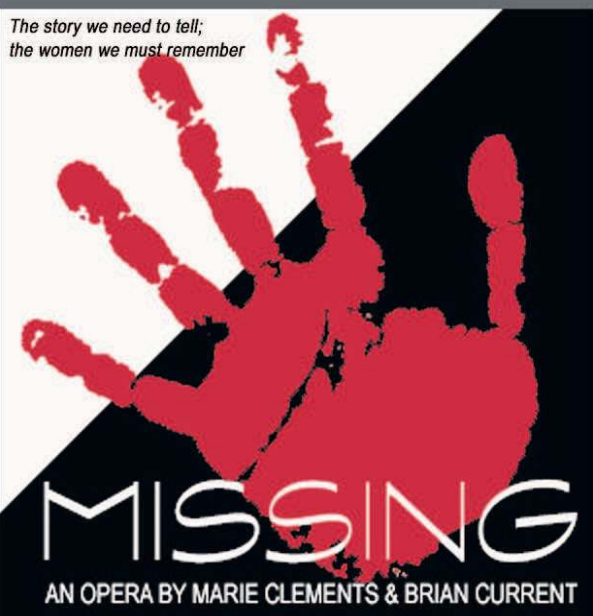
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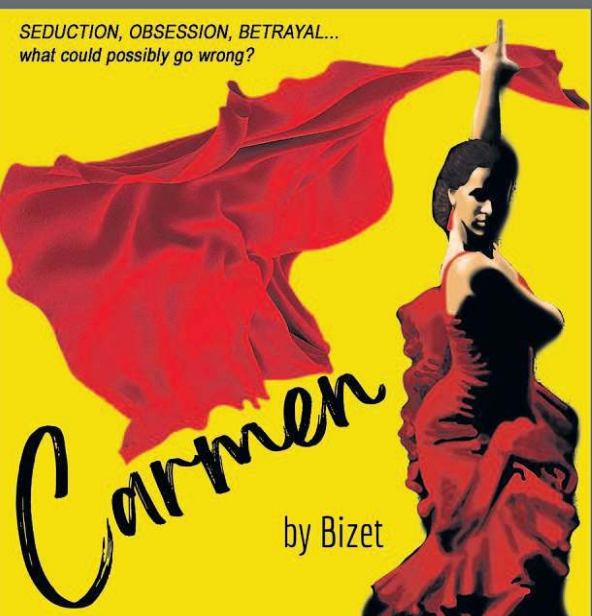
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SCAN to learn more

Backstories: John Sharify

BY O'HARA SHIPE

Sometimes, when John Sharify – or Sheheb as he is known to his friends – meets new people, he likes to play a game.

“If you had to guess, would you think that English was my third language,” he asked me over a cup of coffee at Cafecito Bonito two weeks ago.

A brief silence ensued as I tried to find well-hidden cultural clues in his dress and appearance. But there were none to be found. After all, Sharify has made a career out of seamlessly assimilating.

“My first language was French. My second was Farsi,” Sharify explained with a warm smile before sipping his piping hot coffee.

His manner was gentle, and his eyes were full of earnest excitement when he asked me about my own backstory. “Tell me about your days as a pro hockey player,” he said before I could follow up about his language proficiency. With the simplest of prompts, Sharify skillfully enticed me to open up about the entirety of my life.

30 minutes and one double-chocolate brownie later, the spell Sharify had cast over me dissipated and I remembered why we had agreed to get coffee in the first place – I had intended to interview *him* about his new appointment as the Atwood Chair of Journalism.

As one of the most honored broadcast journalists and documentary filmmakers in the country, Sharify knows all too well the ability of a story to connect two strangers. In fact, he has 79 Emmy awards, nine Edward R. Murrow awards, and a DuPont Columbia award – the broadcast equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize – to prove it.

“I’m curious. Like you are curious. I wanted to know about your hockey – I wanted to know about you before we talked about me. I mean, I always want to know things. It’s how you connect with people and how you lift the veil,” Sharify explained in what is best described as a one-on-one masterclass in journalism.

Sharify’s inquisitive nature and love of storytelling began at an early age. A well-known Iranian poet, writer, and philosopher, Sharify’s father, Dr. Nasser Sharify, was the first to instill the gift of gab in his son.

“I think writing, and the love of words has always been in my DNA,” explained Sharify. “I was fortunate to come from that kind of talent.”

Indeed, talent runs deeply in the Sharify bloodline. Before his passing in 2013, Sharify’s father was awarded the American Library Association Award, the Kaula Gold Medal, which is given annually to a single international leader or scholar in the world, and The Shah’s Crown Medal. He is also considered the father of International Librarianship. Of course, having a famous father came with a caveat.

“When I first started working in the New York City market, I wanted to get feedback from my father on my reports because he would get to see me on TV every night. And he would always say, ‘Son, you look tired, and I didn’t like that tie.’ It was like, ‘Dad, you’re a Ph.D., can you please give me some feedback about the stories,’” exclaimed Sharify with a laugh.

But it wasn’t until Sharify relocated to Seattle that his dedication to developing his craft finally struck a chord with his father.

“I used to send him tapes and one time, my father saw a piece that I did, and he said, ‘Son, that was great. There was not one extra word.’ And that was an epiphany for me, and it was a defining moment in my career. Of course, that should always be the goal – to deliver a script without a single extra word,” explained Sharify.



Shipe Shots Photography — Editorial Photography

Although he admits that the absence of superfluous words doesn’t always happen, he has carefully honed his editorial voice over the past 40 years and closely approximates the art of saying just enough.

“When I approach a story, it’s not enough to say how someone feels or what they are thinking. You have to show it. That’s where the magic really happens,” Sharify declared before switching the focus back to my career.

Again, the Shah of Blah expertly demonstrated his uncanny ability to know exactly when to stop.

Backstories is part of a by-weekly column profiling Alaskans (and the occasional visitor) in 750 words or less.

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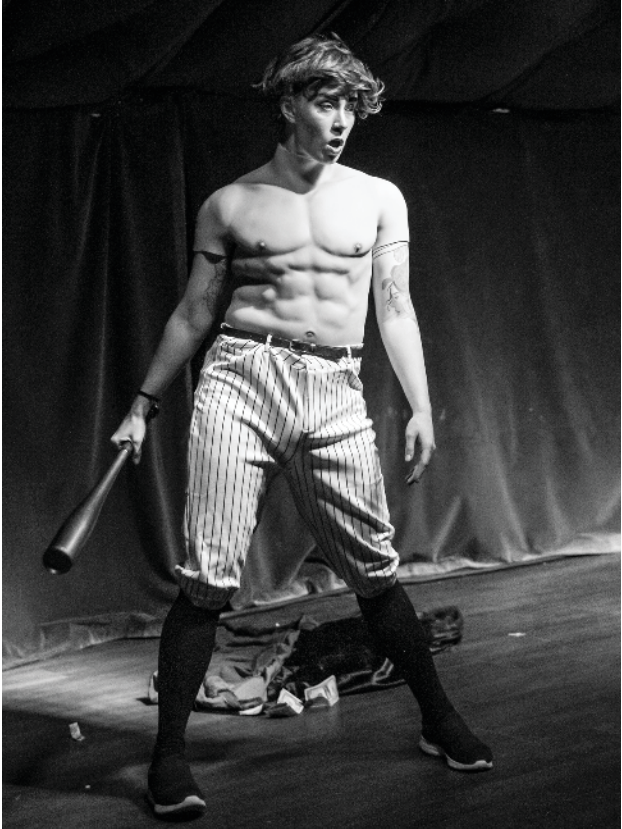
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Boylesque and kings performed with Beaux presents "School Bois" on Saturday night. Photos by @ShipeShots



Anchorage rappers took over the Ice Bar at Koot's on Saturday night. Brother Buffalo, The Eternal Cowboys, Jay Simmons, Jay Reeder, and AG & DC and DJ BeeOne played into the wee hours of the night. Photos by @ShipeShots

A conspiracy-fueled push to count ballots by hand gains traction

BY KIRA LERNER
STATES NEWSROOM

Nye County, a rural enclave in Nevada, has positioned itself as the epicenter of a Donald Trump-fueled conspiracy about the security of electronic vote tabulators.

The Nye County Commission voted in March to make the county one of the first to act on the false narratives that machines that count votes are rigged. County Clerk Mark Kampf, who has falsely claimed that Trump won the 2020 election, has said that volunteer voters there will hand count the roughly 30,000 ballots expected in the November election.

Across the country, Republicans aligned with Trump have directed ire at electronic voting machines, with Republicans in at least six states introducing legislation this year to ban the use of ballot tabulators (Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, New Hampshire, Washington and West Virginia). Over 90 percent of U.S. election jurisdictions currently use electronic tabulators, with only the smallest counties opting to count votes by hand.

Many of the conspiracies around voting machines after the 2020 election centered on technology from Dominion Voting Systems. Lawyers for Trump claimed with no basis that Dominion employees worked with outside groups, liberal donor George Soros, and Venezuela to steal the presidential contest from Trump. Dominion has filed several defamation lawsuits against those who peddled the conspiracies.

Voting experts say that using hand counting as the default method to count ballots, which requires that all voters cast paper ballots, is incredibly expensive, burdensome, and time-consuming.

“This is totally unnecessary,” said Jonathan Diaz, senior legal counsel with the Campaign Legal Center. “There is no evidence or reason to suggest that ballot tabulators don’t work.”

In fact, research shows that vote tabulators are more accurate than hand counts, which allow for a vast amount of human error, especially when the people counting ballots are overworked and tired around an election.

Tabulators are typically certified by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission and jurisdictions almost always test them before an election to ensure their functionality and accuracy. Jurisdictions often hand count smaller groups of ballots after a tabulator is used to verify the accuracy of results.

Tabulators also allow for accessibility features to assist voters with disabilities who cannot hand mark a paper ballot.

The Bipartisan Policy Center, a think tank that uses ideas from both parties, recommends pairing machine tabulators with an audit of paper ballots. “This balance minimizes the potential for human error during vote counting while maintaining a strong system of manual error-checking to unearth discrepancies that may arise during tabulation,” they write in an explainer.

Diaz said he suspects that those pushing for hand counting aren’t actually concerned with the security of tabulators.

“I don’t think that the push for hand counting paper ballots is really motivated by concerns about accuracy or technology,” he said. “I think it’s actually just an attempt to slow down the process and inject more confusion and make things more difficult for election workers.”

Nye County

To hand count all of its ballots, Nye County plans to have teams of three people look at batches of 50 ballots. Kampf said he has already enlisted 57 volunteers to help with the process, according to the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Kampf did not respond to a request for an interview.

While Nye County will hand count its ballots this year, it’ll also tabulate its votes with electronic machines. Officials have said the goal is to eliminate the use of machines for future elections, but using both methods this year allows the county to avoid new state regulations for counties that only conduct hand counts.

In late August, Nevada’s secretary of state’s office announced temporary regulations to take effect Oct. 1 for the general election, including a requirement for bipartisan counters. Nevada law doesn’t outlaw hand counting and the office wanted to be prepared if more counties decide to switch.

Voting experts said hand counting shouldn’t be permitted, and therefore does not need to be regulated. In testimony submitted to Mark Wlaschin, deputy secretary for elections, the Campaign Legal Center explained why hand counting ballots would help neither accuracy nor speed.

“A hand counting requirement would not only delay the reporting of results, but would also be severely disruptive to county officials’ ability to fulfill their critical responsibility to conduct the election securely and accurately,” attorney Julie Hochshtein wrote.

The Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada filed a lawsuit against the state after the regulations were announced, alleging that they deprive Nevadans of their rights to a uniform, statewide standard for counting votes. The group declined to comment on the pending litigation.



(Photo by Mario Tama/Getty Images)

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Vote, contined on page A18

Dagnabit!

The Windmill

BY MIKE GORDON

After the early 1980s, when for a few years Alaska’s economy knew no bounds, I was made an offer I couldn’t refuse by none other than Mafia Mike. That’s how I became the custodian of an important local historical icon. Had I known at the time what a maintenance nightmare it would present I’m not sure I would have accepted the responsibility, regardless of the obvious promotional potential.

In April 1941, more than a decade before I arrived in Seward at age 10—in fact a year and a half before I was born—Byron Gillam stepped ashore in that same coastal community. Preempting his planned return to the States, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, liquor was banned, martial law was established and no one was allowed to leave the Territory of Alaska.

After the war, Gillam made his stake of a little over \$40,000 by diverting a ship bound for the Philippines with 8,800 cases of Hiram Walker aboard. He sold the whiskey to the 3,000 men and 50 women of Valdez. How do you like those odds, girls?

He put the entirety of that stake into purchasing the Nevada Bar, a Swedish bar on First Street in Fairbanks, happily discovering that there was a \$50,000 inventory of booze in the basement.

I am missing some documented history here, but I am pretty sure the Nevada Bar burned down. I remember Mike James—husband of Pat James and father of my Anchorage High School classmate, Dr. Mike James, and his younger brother, attorney Pat James—telling me as a kid how as a member of the volunteer fire department in Fairbanks, he and his team of firefighters struggled mightily with pumps and hose to no avail, as the place went up in flames early on a cold, dark Fairbanks winter morning.

After rescuing some of that precious inventory from within the inferno, they would take a break to quench their thirst with a slug or two, salving their blistered egos while another team continued fighting the fire...and rescuing more inventory.

Having built a successful enterprise in Fairbanks, Gillam sold out to Larry Carr and moved his family to Anchorage in 1957 where he opened the Kut Rate Kid liquor store on East Fireweed Lane. He was the bane of the Seattle-based liquor wholesalers, importing forty-foot trailers loaded with beer and liquor directly to his store, bypassing the wholesalers and heavily discounting his prices to the public. He profited by selling a load of 5,000 cases of beer for two cents per case over his cost because his customers, while in the store, would buy a bottle of wine or liquor properly marked up or a bag of ice at nearly 100% profit.

In 1960 or 1961, Gillam was driving the freeway near Sacramento when he spotted a white four-story windmill, lit up, turning in the night, and had an epiphany. Soon, at a cost of approximately \$13,000 including installation, there was a beautiful new windmill on East Fireweed Lane. Gillam advertised his Kut Rate Kid as being, “under the Windmill at Fireweed and Gamble.”

Not everyone liked the windmill. Then, as now, there were those who did not like outdoor advertising, especially big, flashy stuff. In the very early 1960s, a municipal ordinance was passed that prohibited commercial signs, specifically targeting the windmill.

Byron responded with, “Where’s the advertisement? Where’s the verbiage? It’s not a sign; it’s a light. It’s a windmill. Screw off!”

I would venture to say that if a bunch of local agitators tried to have that same windmill removed today from where it stands over the Chilkoot Charlie’s parking lot, they would have a hell of a fight on their hands. It is a landmark. And it fits the character of Spenard better than where it used to sit on East Fireweed Lane, which is a little short on the elusive, legendary, and endearing character that defines Spenard. People in Spenard love it.

Byron’s son Bob, having recently graduated from college, built a nice new facility further west on Fireweed Lane out of which they ran their liquor business until around 1978, the year Byron passed away. In 1980 the business and property were sold, and the new operator—not as adept at tracking those two cent profits—failed. The property fell into bankruptcy, which left the building and windmill sitting unattended for an extended period of time.

As the Anchorage economy boomed in the 1980s, fueled by the massive oil income from the newly-opened pipeline from Prudhoe Bay and Project 80s expenditures on infrastructure, Mafia Mike, who owned a pizza operation, was expanding.

Mike was a local character who appeared in his own television ads sporting a black shirt, white tie, and black fedora to support his namesake pizza operation. He even put his name on the ballot for mayor of Anchorage to garner more publicity. The flashy windmill, which he purchased out of bankruptcy, was a perfect fit for his personality. He was all set to open another location in Mid-town Anchorage and planning to move his newly-acquired windmill out there as his own landmark when the oil patch crisis hit Alaska. The price of oil spiraled downward by over fifty percent and ended many business dreams, including Mafia Mike’s.

His expansion plans cancelled, Mafia Mike no longer had use for the windmill. But the owners of the property still wanted it removed. Mike asked around and, according to him, someone said, “Go see Mike Gordon. He’ll buy anything,” which was not entirely off-base because I had recently purchased that two-headed pig for Chilkoot Charlie’s where it still sits in its jar of formaldehyde behind the South Long Bar. Word gets around.

Mike really did make me an offer I couldn’t refuse. He said, “I’ll give you the windmill if you move it off the property, re-erect it at the southeast corner of your parking lot, and put a plaque on it saying that it was donated to Spenard by Mafia Mike.” So it was done, at a cost of \$10,000. I also attached the plaque, which has long since disappeared.

Unfortunately, the cost of moving and re-erecting the windmill was only the beginning. Next we discovered what we might have anticipated in Spenard—loons who would want to climb the structure. There is a scruffy bar-inhabiting variety of loon in Spenard, Gavia inebria, whose only similarity to the common loon found in Alaskan waters is its red eyes. We had to build a six-foot fence around the structure topped off with barbed wire to protect these Spenard loons, strange related to lemmings, from their suicidal proclivities.

Those Gavia inebria who are not interested in climbing the windmill still love it, many because its lights provide colorful targets at which to toss rocks. Normal Spenardians, like those who attend the neighborhood farmer’s market right under the windmill, love it for its homey, reassuring presence.

The people who adore the windmill the absolute most, however, are the people who provide for its maintenance. We’re talking job security here. Over the decades the total number of days during which all the lights on its support legs and on the spokes were lit up, and those spokes were rotating can be counted on the digits of your two hands.

If all the support leg lights are working, then the neon lights on the spokes or tail are totally or partially out. If by some chance all the lights everywhere are working, then the motor that turns the spokes has most likely died. It is a beautiful thing to behold though during those fleeting moments when the whole contraption is working. It’s akin to witnessing a miracle.

Not long after the windmill was re-erected, we had a little celebration. As part of the festivities, we invited the public to bring items to put into a 55-gallon time capsule, which we then placed in a hole we had dug under the windmill. I hope the contents prove to be interesting to future residents of Spenard in, say, 2050, and this story will serve as a reminder to future archeologists that the capsule is there. Someone from the university system might write an intellectual treatise on the historic relics and perhaps even the fate of Gavia inebria.

Before I sold the business to my employees in 2015, I had a conversation in the Chilkoot Charlie’s Swing Bar with Byron’s son, Bob Gillam (1946-2018), founder and president of McKinley Capital Management, LLC, a highly successful investment institution and the first of its kind in Alaska. The family wanted to install the windmill on their property on Lake Clark as a family keepsake, so I investigated the cost of a metal replacement that would look enough like the original that no one in Spenard would feel short-changed. Bob agreed to

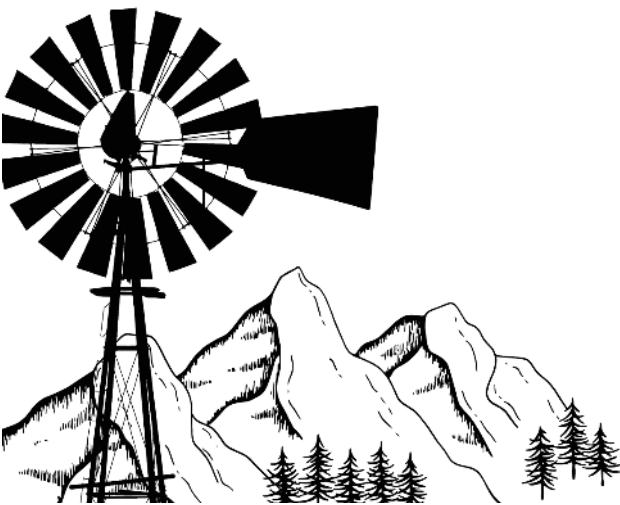
pay reasonable expenses to make all this happen and I was perfectly happy to accommodate him and his family, but when it came to actually committing to spending the money, he demurred.

It would have been a win-win if the family had gotten the windmill they wanted for sentimental reasons and I had gotten one that kept the residents of Spenard happy and required less maintenance.

I told Bob that if we ever consummated a deal, he needed to consider investing some of his ample McKinley Capital money in a sign maintenance company and closed the conversation with “Be careful what you wish for, Bob.”

Bob has since died and the folks from the Moose’s Tooth now own the Chilkoot Charlie’s property. So, any decisions regarding the future of the windmill will fall upon them—not, I hope, like loose parts from the sky high over Spenard.

Dagnabit! is a new column by the infamous former owner of Koot’s, Mike Gordon. This nostalgic romp through pre-statehood Alaska, tells the little known stories of the rough-and-tumble 70s, and the few years of the 80s Gordon refers to as the Glory Days, when anything was possible and money was no object.



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A carnivore’s delight

Jeepney isn’t your lolas cooking but still serves up hearty food fusions

RESTAURANT REVIEW
BY JIN CHONG

With as many Filipinos that reside in Anchorage, the number of restaurants serving Filipino cuisine is surprisingly few. There might be several reasons for this. But my experience is that many *nanays*, *titas*, and *lolas* are adept in the kitchen, eliminating the need to drag the entire family out for what could ultimately be seen as an inferior version of home cooking. While there may be some truth to this belief, not everyone has ready access to the wonders of this increasingly renowned cuisine, which features more than enough protein to satisfy the carnivore in all of us.

Chief among the places where you can get a taste of Pinoy cuisine in Anchorage is Jeepney Filipino Fusion Food, which started as a food truck years ago and has since established three locations across town. It occurred to me that I can’t recall sampling their food, which makes sense, what with me being married into a Filipino family and all.

However, I figured what better time to explore this cuisine marked by glorious excess than at the height of fall while I regress into a full-on winter bod? After all, the people of Anchorage deserve to hear from someone with somewhat of an informed opinion as to whether the food at Jeepney is worth the caloric investment.

One thing to note is that Jeepney—like many other restaurants—identifies as a fusion restaurant. But the reality is that there’s a pretty clear divide between the Filipino and Hawaiian sections of their menu, save for a few items like a burrito, loaded fries, and nachos. At least that’s what I encountered at their Old Seward location, where the underlying theme uniting these island cuisines is a focus on plate lunches which emphasize meat-centric dishes accompanied with your choice of two sides between rice, cauliflower rice, pancit, and mac salad.

Seeing as how my first priority was to determine whether Jeepney is capable of doing Filipino food justice, I more or less knew what I wanted to order. While it took some back and forth between me and a fresh-faced employee who mentioned that they were out of grilled skewers and tortillas, I soon ended up with an order of takoyaki, lechon kawali, dinuguan, and mochiko chicken. Soon after placing my order, I took a moment to examine the surroundings and got the impression that Jeepney best functions as a takeout joint, so I took my haul and its wonderful aromas back home before digging in.

Pancit—a stir-fried noodle dish on the menu of nearly every Filipino party I’ve ever been to—was first on my list as I made a straight dive for some carb-filled goodness. I’ve always viewed this dish as a crowd-pleasing filler, and here it aligned with expectations with a nice vegetal crunch from the cabbage and sliced carrots. The noodles had a springy resiliency to them that made these a fun vehicle for a light soy seasoning and a few scraps of chicken. Overall, this was a solid depiction that was commendable for not being overly saturated with oil.

The mac salad served as a cool, creamy counterpart to the rich, savory elements found abundant throughout this meat fest. By far, my favorite side was the cauliflower rice which could be substituted for a small upcharge. These little granular nubs were mildly seasoned and tasted smoky as if they had been fried in a wok. I’m inclined to believe this was done as a riff on garlic fried rice which is considered an essential component of any complete Filipino breakfast. Of course, the best part about this nutritious alternative was that it didn’t leave me feeling weighed down nearly as much as everything else.

As the sole representative of Japanese street food, some may recognize takoyaki as somewhat of an outlier on Jeepney’s menu. Although its inclusion is somewhat random, I am honestly all for it, given that these snack-sized spheres of fried batter are a favorite of mine.



Takoyaki are consistently amazing and known for being concentrated bursts of umami flavor, and what’s not to love about that? I wasn’t sure what to expect by ordering these at a Filipino-Hawaiian restaurant, but they were, in fact, the real deal with a nice contrast between crisp exteriors and doughy centers along with tender pieces of octopus. A healthy dose of a syrupy glaze, furikake, and bonito flakes further enhanced the takoyaki’s potency. I could criticize one thing; it’s that kewpie mayonnaise was nowhere to be seen. Fortunately, this MSG-laced condiment holds a permanent spot in my fridge, and so I was able to drizzle some on with complete abandon as a finishing touch.

This was my first time trying mochiko chicken. However, after having some, I suppose it was basically a Hawaiian take on chicken karaage. Thick chunks of breast meat were marinated in what appeared to be a teriyaki sauce, contributing a significant amount of flavor and making the chicken incredibly juicy. One downside is that the breading wasn’t even remotely crispy by the time I came home, but it was still satisfying as the dish was akin to some saucy Chinese takeout.

Lechon kawali is deep fried pork belly. Let that sink in for a second before I go on to say that these were like crispy pork rinds with pockets of fat that dissipated like wisps of flavor. Unfortunately, the dark brown shade and tooth-shattering texture may have been signs that these were overcooked on top of there being very little meat. I was expecting a little more out of what I thought was going to be a home run. Instead, I wasn’t sure what to do with the pieces that were nearly scorched without any sauce to help offset the buttery qualities of pork fat.

Thankfully, I found much more success with the dinuguan, affectionally called “chocolate meat” for its strikingly dark hue. You might have already guessed that there’s no hint of sweets in this offal lover’s dream as the dish is not only made up of less desirable parts of the pig—its color and texture are derived from pork blood as a key ingredient. Some rice on the side was mandatory to act as a blank canvas for the thick, curry-like consistency of the stew, which tastes more vinegar-forward than anything else. There was a generous amount of mystery meat bobbing about, and much to my delight, several pieces possessed a cartilage-like chew. I’ve grown quite fond of pork blood in all its forms over the years, so with that said, I’m happy to say this version was a triumph.

Despite the keto designation conspicuously noted throughout their menu, I wouldn’t exactly consider Jeepney’s host of Filipino and Hawaiian dishes to be diet food. No, this is stick to your ribs, coma-inducing fare that accomplishes exactly what it’s meant to do—fill you up with generous portions and at a reasonable cost. There’s certainly room for improvements, and there might not be much in the way of fusion, but by and large, Jeepney has enough good going on to appease both fans and newcomers to Filipino food. My suggestion? If you’re feeling brave and want some of the good stuff, go straight for the chocolate meat.

Jeepney has two Anchorage locations — 9191 Old Seward Highway and 2477 Arctic Boulevard. Visit JeepneyAlaska.com for hours of operation and their menu.



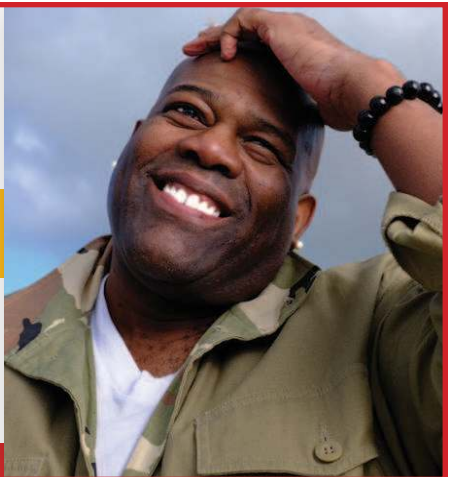
COMEDIAN DARRYL LENOX

Comedian Darryl Lenox has been on Conan O’Brien, Comedy Central and his STARS comedy special Blind Ambition.

- ** Thursday October 6th at The Broken Blender on 3rd and F Street Downtown Anchorage.
- ** Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and show Starts at 7:30 p.m.
- ** 18 and up show.
- ** Tickets available at www.Ericksonevents.com



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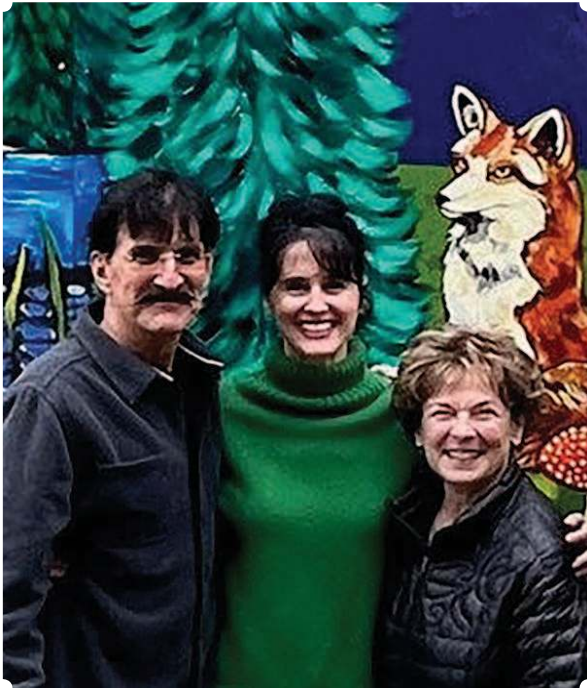


Page A10 - Drag Brunch returned to Williwaw on Sunday. To mark the occasion the theme was "Waking Up in Vegas" and what a glitterific celebration it was! Penny Dragful, Lamia Monroe, Beyquance and Golden Delicious sported feathers, rhinestones, fringe, and of course, duct tape.

Page A11 - Arciniega Street Productions presents Drag Loteria continues to sell out each month. Demand has been so high that an additional Friday night show has been added. Keep tabs on future events by following @ArciniegaStreet.

All photos by @ShipeShots

Thank you to Drew Michael and Tracey Pilch for our 2022 exterior murals. Art Happens!





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Fri 9/30

The Sensuous Senator

@ 7pm / \$25
SEPTEMBER 9 - OCTOBER 2 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS,
AND SATURDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM
Anchorage Community Theatre, 1133 East 70th Avenue,
Anchorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

Orquesta Akokan

@ 7:30pm
Atwood Concert Hall, 621 W 6th Ave, Anchorage

Sat 10/01

Featured



Zombie Half Marathon
@ 8am / Free-\$50
Oct 1st - Oct 10th
2811 UAA Dr, Goose Lake
Picnic Shelter, Anchorage



Featured



49th State Brewing Pumpkin Patch
@ 11am
Pick a pumpkin to carve. Play Pumpkin Pong, Ghost Bowling and Tic-Tac-Boo. Strike a pose at the Pumpkin Patch photo-booth. 49th State Brewing - Anchorage, 717 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage

Hit the Trails Family Fun Run
@ 11am / \$12-\$70
5151 Abbott Road, Anchorage

Featured



Hilltop Oktoberfest
@ 12pm / \$20
Join us at Hilltop Oktoberfest! A Family-Friendly Fall Fundraiser. Live music, German food & beer, and activities for the whole family to enjoy! Hilltop Ski Area, 7015 Abbott Road, Anchorage. hannaheffern@gmail.com, 907-632-3961

Archery
@ 6:30pm
Kincaid Wax Bunker, 9301 W Raspberry Rd, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

Comedian Kevin Farley
@ 7pm / \$20-\$25
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Featured



WrestlePro Alaska
@ 7pm / \$35-\$75
WrestlePro Championship Match: Bobby Wayward vs. Scotty 2 Hotty and Alaska Last Frontier Championship: Fallah Bahh (c) vs. Justin Corino. William a Egan Civic and Convention Center, 555 W 5th Avenue, Anchorage



The Sensuous Senator
@ 7pm / \$25
SEPTEMBER 9 - OCTOBER 2 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS,
AND SATURDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM
Anchorage Community Theatre, 1133 East 70th Avenue,
Anchorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

Simply Three: Sitka Music Festival
@ 7pm
Discovery Center, 4731 O'Malley Rd, Anchorage

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Steampunk Saturday Cabaret
@ 8pm / \$24
Welcome to our Steampunk Cabaret! Where Victorian vintage meets industrial chic. The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

Comedian Kevin Farley
@ 9:30pm / \$20-\$25
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Sun 10/02

Paint Class-Gnome Hello Fall Sign*Advanced Reservation Required*
@ 11:30am / \$48
Laser-cut wood with all the pieces ready for you to paint or stain! Turnagain Arts Building, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard, Julie Moraes Artistry Sute A3 Suite is in front of the building facing the street, Anchorage. sparkletribe1@gmail.com

Fall Vendor Marketplace
@ 12pm
Get an early start on your Christmas shopping! Featuring local small businesses and crafters. Find something truly unique for your loved ones (or yourself!). Midtown Mall, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amber@midtownmall.com, 907-602-6225

The Sensuous Senator
@ 3pm / \$25
SEPTEMBER 9 - OCTOBER 2 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS,
AND SATURDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM
Anchorage Community Theatre, 1133 East 70th Avenue,
Anchorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

Intro to Pickleball Oct. 2nd
@ 8pm
Spenard Recreation Center, 2020 W 48th Avenue, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

Wed 10/05

Bonny Sosa Tuesday Night Races 4-Kincaid
@ 2:30am
Kincaid Outdoor Center, 9401 W Raspberry Rd, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

With Pay-What-You-Can-Preview
@ 7pm
Full of heartwarming eccentricities, WITH is a love story, a poignant comedy about trying to face the inevitable on your own terms. Cyrano's Theatre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyranos.org

Fri 10/07

First Friday with Jessie Hedden
@ 5pm
Cyrano's Art Gallery presents Collages and Construction by Fairbanks Artist Jessie Hedden First Friday Reception on October 7, from 5-7pm Cyrano's Theatre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyranos.org

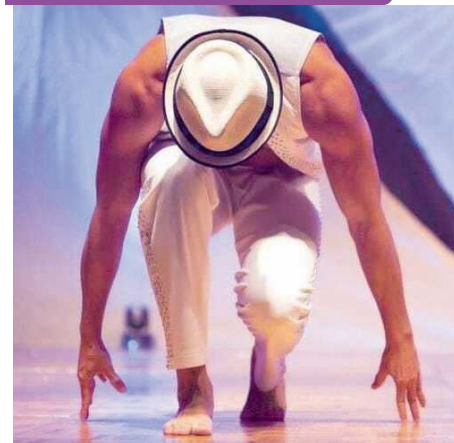
Turnagain Ceramics Pottery Sale

@ 5pm
You won't want to miss this one of a kind pottery sale, party, raffle, live pottery demos and more. Come down to Turnagain Ceramics on October 7th! 1343 G St, 1343 G Street, Suite 101, Anchorage. hello@turnagainceramics.com, 907-382-4419

Resin Art Class-Serving Board With Resin*Advanced Reservation Required*
@ 5:30pm / \$55
Learn the basics of working with resin, pigment powders, glitter, and crushed glass (optional) to create a unique one-of-a-kind functional serving board. Turnagain Arts Building, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard, Julie Moraes Artistry Sute A3 Suite is in front of the building facing the street, Anchorage. sparkletribe1@gmail.com

Paint Class-Large 18" Halloween Signs*Advanced Reservation Required*
@ 5:30pm / \$50
Join us and paint these fun 2-layer large laser-cut wood Halloween wall decor! Turnagain Arts Building, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard, Julie Moraes Artistry Sute A3 Suite is in front of the building facing the street, Anchorage. sparkletribe1@gmail.com

Featured



CubanA: A Celebration of Cuban Dance Heritage
@ 6:30pm / \$30-\$170
Oct 7th - Oct 9th
Anaya Latin Dance, 901 East Klatt Road, no 6, Anchorage



With
@ 7pm / \$30
Full of heartwarming eccentricities, WITH is a love story, a poignant comedy about trying to face the inevitable on your own terms. Cyrano's Theatre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyranos.org

Sat 10/08

Make it Alaskan Market
@ 10am / \$400-\$600
Oct 8th - Oct 9th
Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center, 600 W 7th Ave, Anchorage

Fall Vendor Marketplace
@ 10am
Get an early start on your Christmas shopping! Featuring local small businesses and crafters. Find something truly unique for your loved ones (or yourself!). Midtown Mall, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amber@midtownmall.com, 907-602-6225

Resin Art Class-Northern Lights Bear*Advanced Reservation Required*
@ 11:30am / \$55
Resin Art is a form of flow art, the pieces are unique and no two pieces are exactly the same! Turnagain Arts Building, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard, Julie Moraes Artistry Sute A3 Suite is in front of the building facing the street, Anchorage. sparkletribe1@gmail.com

Kickball Tournament
@ 5pm
Oct 8th - Oct 16th
Sisterhood Park, 4879 Van Buren Street, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

Salsa Saturdays
@ 6pm / \$16
Williwaw, 609 F Street, Anchorage

Archery
@ 6:30pm
Kincaid Wax Bunker, 9301 W Raspberry Rd, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

Featured



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THEIR NATIONAL TEAM JOURNEY!!



Women's Rugby World Cup Kickoff Party
@ 3:30pm
Join the Arctic Foxes rugby club in supporting Alaskans Alev Kelter and Kathryn Trader as they take on Italy in the first game of the XV's Women's World Cup. Uncle Joe's Pizzeria, 11700 Old Seward Highway, Anchorage. jami.almonte@gmail.com

Featured



With
@ 7pm / \$30
Full of heartwarming eccentricities, WITH is a love story, a poignant comedy about trying to face the inevitable on your own terms. Cyrano's Theatre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyranos.org



Sun 10/09

Fall Vendor Marketplace
@ 12pm
Get an early start on your Christmas shopping! Featuring local small businesses and crafters. Find something truly unique for your loved ones (or yourself!). Midtown Mall, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amber@midtownmall.com, 907-602-6225

With
@ 3pm / \$30
Full of heartwarming eccentricities, WITH is a love story, a poignant comedy about trying to face the inevitable on your own terms. Cyrano's Theatre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyranos.org

Tue 10/11

Vocal Alchemy for Personal Healing
@ 7pm / \$20
On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, YOU are invited to join me in my Vocal Alchemy, Vocal Sound Healing Class. Your body is a vessel of sound. Come and learn how to use the voice to heal yourself. ATOM Center AK, 6000 C Street, Anchorage. info@tamarazeno.com, 206-375-8529

Wed 10/12

Bonny Sosa Tuesday Night Races 5-Russian Jack North
@ 2:30am
Far North Bicentennial Park, 4970 Cambell Airstrip rd, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

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Get direct links to the event details at AKconcerts.com
Or read below if you just want to know the time & place.

Thursday, September 29th

Anchorage Brewing Company – Zen Trembles 5p-8p
Flattop Pizza & Pool – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Garcia’s Cantina & Café (Eagle River) – Tim Hall LIVE 8p-11p
Humpys - Karmic Rebuttal 7:30p-12:30a
Koot’s – The Ken Peltier Band 7p-10p
Main Street Tap & Grill (Kenai) - Comedian Kevin Farley 7p-8:30p
Tailgater’s Sport’s Bar & Grill (Wasilla) - The AKoustic Project 7p-10p
Tequila 61 – An Acoustic Evening with Will Johnson 6p-9p
Van’s Dive Bar – Bluegrass is Back w/ Todd Grebe! 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – Emo Night Unplugged feat: Sideways & The Stack 9p-12a



Friday, September 30th

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Orquesta Akokán 7:30p-9:30p
Alaska Dance Promotions – Friday Night Dance Lounge 9p-1a
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – Friday Night Feast w/ 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Acoustic Steak Night with Stephen Hendricks! 6p-8p
Black Birch Books (Wasilla) – Open Mic Night 5p-7p
Borough Gym (Palmer) – Wrestle Pro Alaska: The Calm Before the Storm 7p-10p
Dena’ina Civic Convention Center – Gracias Christmas Cantata 7p-9:30p
Everett’s (Wasilla) – Standup Comedy w/ Kevin Farley 7p-8:15p
Floaters (Big Lake) – Open Mic Night 7p-12a
The Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 4207 – Karaoke Friday at the Eagles! 7p-12a
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Humpy’s – I Like Robots 9:30p-1:30a
Koot’s – Velvet La La Live 10p-2:45a
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
O’Malley’s On The Green – Farrago Five and The Hall Monitors Live 7p-10p
Organic Oasis – John Damberg Jazz Piano Fridays 5:30p -7:30p
Palmer Alehouse (Palmer) – The Stack LIVE 7p-10p
Valley Performing Arts (Wasilla) - DEARLY DEPART-ED: A Comedy 7p-10p
Van’s Dive Bar – Murmur’s Friends With Benefits Show & Fundraiser! 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – R&B Live 7:30p-9:30p
Williwaw Social – Back 2 Back Dance Party w/ DJ Poster Child & DJ Guestlist 10p-2a



Saturday, October 1st

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Mari Black in concert 7p-9:30p
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
Anchorage Moose Lodge – Zen Trembles Live 8p-12a
Anchorage Museum – Free Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration 6:30p-7:30p
Anchorage Social Dance Club – Oktoberfest Dance 7p-11p
The Broken Blender – Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Wenches and Wrenches 8p-9:30p
Restaurant – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-12a
Egan Convention Center – Wrestle Pro Alaska: The Calm Before the Storm 7p-10p
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Hightower Pub (Girdwood) - HarpDaddy Unraveled Oktoberfesting 8p-12a
Hilltop Ski Area – Oktoberfest – Family-Friendly Fall Fundraiser 12p-8p
Koot’s – Viva Spenard 10 7p-10p
Koot’s – Velvet La La Live 10p-2:45a
Koot’s – Comedian Kevin Farley 7p-9p & 9:30p-11p
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
Palmer Train Depot (Palmer) – Emo Night w/ Sideways & Millennial Falcons 7p-11p
Valley Performing Arts (Wasilla) - DEARLY DEPART-ED: A Comedy 7p-10p
Van’s Dive Bar – The River Livers 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – 3OH!3 live at Williwaw Social! 7p-10p



Sunday, October 2nd

Anchorage Festival of Music – From the Quills of Babes.... 4p-6p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke Sunday 8p-2a
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Wasilla) – Soloist Auditions 5p-8p
Humpys - Open Mic Jam 8p-11p
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Pioneer Bar – Industry Night w/ Joe Brady 10p-2a
Valley Performing Arts (Wasilla) - DEARLY DEPART-ED: A Comedy 2p-5p
Van’s Dive Bar – Open Mic! Overlorded by Wash Your Hands 8p-12a

Monday, October 3rd

Koot’s – The Monday Mic at Koots 9p-12a
Van’s Dive Bar – Mellow Mondays w/ Nikki Now 9:30p-12a

Tuesday, October 4th

American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Taco Tuesday Open Mic w/Uncle Jim! 6:30p-9:30p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke 8p-2a
Klondike Mike’s & the Main Street Grill (Palmer) – The Open Stage 7p-10p
Koot’s – The Eternal Cowboys 10p-12a
Organic Oasis – Williwaw Blue 5:30p-7:30p
Trophy Lounge – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 9p-1a
Van’s Dive Bar – OPEN JAM w/ Daylight Mike 9p-12a

Wednesday, October 5th

907 Alehouse –Tyrone Palmer & Friends 7p-10p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke 8p-11p
Eddie’s Sports Bar – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 9p-12a
Koot’s – Country Night with DJ Lefty 8p-12a
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Koot’s –Koots Karaoke 10p-2a
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Pioneer Bar – The Eternal Cowboys 10p-12a
PubHouse – Witty Youngman 7p-10p
Schwabenhof (Wasilla) - Open Mic 7p-12a
Van’s Dive Bar – Karaoke w/ The Milkman and/or The Dairy Queen! 9p-12a



A Peek at 2022 Autumnal Art Scene

Art abounds in Anchorage and the Lower-48

ART SLEUTH
BY JEAN BUNDY

With Covid becoming a way of life, the aesthetic world is slowly reawakening. Museums took a hard hit as visitors, who couldn't enjoy exiting from the gift shop, or dining in museum cafés, gave up annual memberships. Since Black Lives Matter institutions have been questioned about their colonial practices, where monies come from, and are the curatorial staff cognizant that people of color and all women are under-represented. While the art world tries to fathom 'NFT-Art' that only exists (or does it at all?) in a digital format, the genre of Graffiti has been canonized, and this autumn, colorful imagery seems to be Post-Covid aesthetic comfort food locally, and across the US.

Duke Russell

It's hard to live in the 49th State and not have experienced the art of Duke Russell, the 2022 winner of the Rasmuson Foundation President's Award. Awarded to an individual devoted to the arts and to the community, the President's Award includes a \$7,500 honorarium.

"I've always loved Duke's humor and commentary on the challenges and beauty of Alaska life," Rasmuson Executive Director Diane Kaplan said. "This year, his work at the Centennial Park campground for those experiencing homelessness was a true act of service. He provided hundreds of meals for the most vulnerable of our neighbors. I'm delighted to announce that Duke is receiving the President's Award."

Russell is proud of being self-taught, and amusingly I remember sketching him in the early Nineties. It was a figure drawing session at Blaine's Art and the actual model never appeared. So Russell took off his clothes and the class began. His initiative and resourcefulness constantly resurface, especially this summer when Anchorage's homeless were banished to camp in rainy Centennial Park, and Russell provided his mobile kitchen to feed those in desperate need. The best place to get up close and experience Russell's art is with beer and a slice at the Hearth Artisan Pizza (1200 West Northern Lights). Whether rendering in Spenard, New York City, or Venice Beach, California, his art mixes a cartoon-esque genre with sophisticated perspectival views, and a wide color palette, and invariably features people on the go.



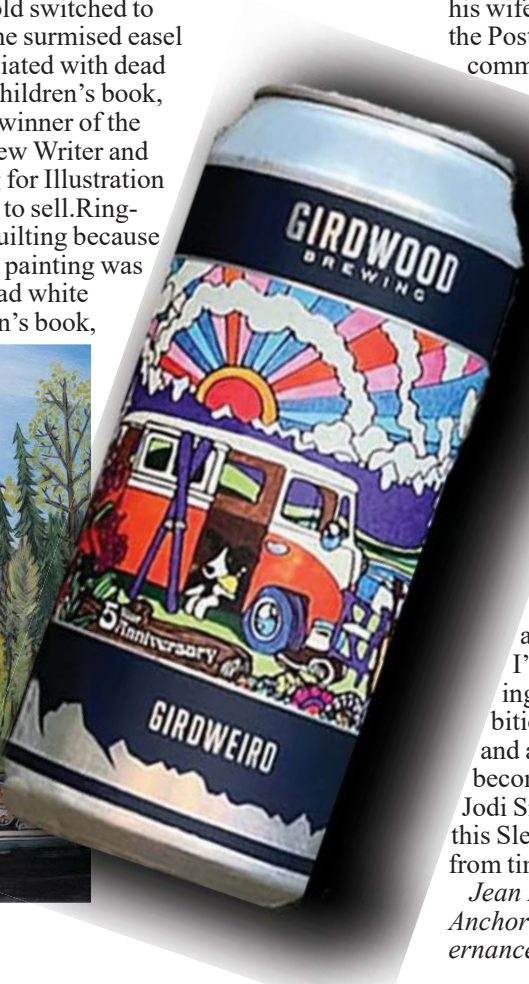
"Rocket Park" by Duke Russell. Oil on canvas.

Dawn Gerety

This past August, I spent a few days in Girdwood and found Dawn Gerety's fanciful depiction of a ski resort, over a condo fireplace. Her black lines, which describe mountains, tightly hold a variety of blues contrasted with orange/reds. Gerety has numerous 1% projects: Gladys Wood Elementary, and Nome State Office Building. Her website: artseriously.com offers dog leashes to prints in her primary color designs. While having coffee and their famous sweet roll at Girdwood's Bake Shop, I discovered the art of Meg Smith. Smith is best friends with Gerety; it really helps to have an empathetic friend to share creative anxieties. Like Gerety, Smith creates hard-edged designs but her palette is tonal and renders with one side of the color wheel at a time, often using blues and greens leaching yellow undertones. Smith finds flying her plane throughout Alaska's mountains and valleys propels her to abstract the landscape. A Smith design appears on an 'Alaska USA' credit card, and her website: www.megsmithdesign.com, offers leggings to backpacks. Both women's art has appeared on Girdwood Brewing Company cans.

DeYoung Museum

If you're traveling outside this fall, eye-candy shows abound. At San Francisco's DeYoung Museum 'Faith Ringgold: American People' (thru November 27, 2022) features her paintings and quilts. Ringgold (b.1930) grew up in Harlem and has degrees from City College of New York at a time when women of any ethnicity didn't much attend, let alone finish college. She's an African-American artist/teacher who broke through racial barriers embedding Activism into sculpture and performance art. Ringgold switched to quilting because she surmised easel painting was associated with dead white males. Her children's book, 'Tar Beach' 1991, winner of the Ezra Jack Keats New Writer and Coretta Scott King for Illustration Awards, continues to sell. Ringgold switched to quilting because she surmised easel painting was associated with dead white males. Her children's book,



'Tar Beach' 1991, winner of the Ezra Jack Keats New Writer and Coretta Scott King for Illustration Awards, continues to sell.

David Hockney

Hockney (b.1937) makes everyone love color! He's best known for painting California Mid-Century-Modern flat-roofed glass houses and pools. Hockney has researched how Renaissance artists used early optical instruments to achieve perspectival effects. And before the computer age, he cut and collaged snapshots, which almost seems he predicted the coming of digital picture making. At the Art Institute of Chicago, David Hockney's 'Arrival of Spring, Normandy 2020' (thru January 9, 2023) are plein-air works constructed with an iPad during the 2020 Covid lockdown. Hockney's Normandy landscapes remind viewers of Van Gogh's strong primaries, while dots and dashes reference French painting genres: Seurat's Pointillism, and Matisse's Fauvism.

The song 'Autumn in New York,' 1934, by Vernon Duke, and the movie with Richard Gere and Winona Ryder (2000) by the same title also signaled the opening of Manhattan's fall cultural season for decades. However, this is changing thanks to the internet (and Zoom) which streams: art news, book reviews, lectures, shopping, how-to advice (YouTube), and even online shows. But you can't beat exhibitions in situ.

New York's Guggenheim

At New York's Guggenheim is 'Alex Katz: Gathering' (October 21 thru February 20, 2023). Katz (b. 1927) is still painting minimal/flat landscapes and portraits using his high-key color palette akin to fellow Sixties artists: Lichtenstein and Warhol. Katz is known for painting his wife Ada in Manhattan and Maine. His art alludes to the Post-War era when both coasts were bursting with commercial/residential growth, backed-dropped by the mini-skirted, bouffant-hairstyle 'Camelot' crowd and contrasted by the Khrushchev-Cold War, with 'Communists under every bed' paranoia. The Whitney Museum's show 'Edward Hopper's New York' (October 19-March 5, 2023) will feature his views of the Greek-revival facades of Manhattan's red brick row housing to sites along the Hudson where longshoremen will soon be appearing with lunch pails. Hopper (1882-1967) is one of America's iconic and parodied painters. The house in 'Psycho' (1960) where Norman Bates lived with his mom, is a homage to Hopper's depictions of singular, isolated domiciles, situated on rocky coasts or immersed in sedge grass.

Concluding: As chair of the AICA-International Incentive Prize for Young Art Critics (2022), I've been reading gruesome essays by critics writing from Ukraine. Stoically, artists render, and exhibitions continue underground, while countrymen and animals are brutally killed, and the landscape becomes polluted, perhaps forever. Also, thank you to Jodi Smith at Princeton University Press who supports this Sleuth column; I will be reviewing their art books from time to time. Keep on Sleuthing for Art!

Jean Bundy, MFA, Ph.D. is a writer/painter living in Anchorage. She is a VP at AICA-Int. and serves on Governance for Pictor Gallery, NYC.



Thurs 9pm @ Flattop

Jukebox KARAOKE Roadshow

HOSTED BY **JUKEBOX JOE**

Live Music Lineup!

Thursday September 29
7:30 Karmic Rebuttal

Friday September 30
8:30 I Like Robots

Saturday October 1
8:30 Parton My French

Wednesday October 5
7:30 Will Balcao

@Humpy's

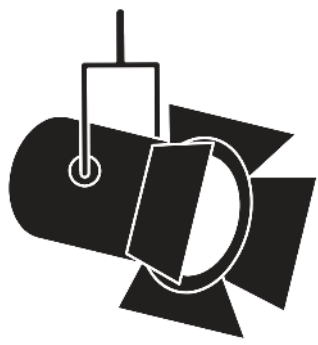


OPEN MIC NIGHT

Every SUNDAY

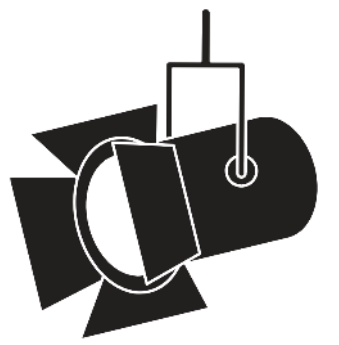
Flattop Big Screen TV's Get Ready For Football!

FLATTOP PIZZA @ 600 W. 6TH AVE • HUMPY'S GREAT ALASKAN ALEHOUSE @ 610 W. 6TH AVE



YOUR
FALL
2022

THEATRE GUIDE



The Sensuous Senator

By Michael Parker

September 9 - October 3, 2022

Senator Douglas is running for President on a "morality" platform, but when his wife Lois leaves to attend a conference in Chicago he does not hesitate to invite Veronica, his secretary and lover, over. Finding her unavailable, he has an escort agency send voluptuous Fiona. All seems well until his elderly Congressional colleague and neighbor locks himself out and asks to spend the night. Then Congressman Jack Maguire drops in unexpectedly and Fiona, unsure who her client is, zeros in on him. Meanwhile, Veronica changes her plans and appears on the scene. Before Lois reaches the airport, her fashionable Washington townhouse is swarming with libidinous politicians, scantily dressed women, security police and a muckraking reporter from The National Intruder! When snow closes the airport and she returns home, the bedlam crescendos to a surprise ending in this outrageous farce by the author of The Amorous Ambassador.

Constance & Sinestra and the Cabinet of Screams

By Alexandra-Spencer Jones and Patrick Gleeson

October 21 - 31, 2022

Constance and Sinestra live on the edge of a cliff with their mad taxidermist father who never comes upstairs. A heartbreaking and twisted tale of love, loss and baking perfect for lost children of all ages.

Dracula! The Radio Play

By Philip Grecian

based on his own stage play and on the novel by Bram Stoker

October 31, 2022

Remember the good old days of radio—when people had to use their imaginations—when the mind was a stage? Those days are back—only better! You can SEE as well as HEAR radio programs. "I have long followed the trail of the vampire," Professor Van Helsing tells us, "It lives on...for centuries...draining the blood...the life...from its victims, causing them also to become vampires. And this is our story. The story of a small band of mortals who faced the most powerful vampire of them all.

Annie

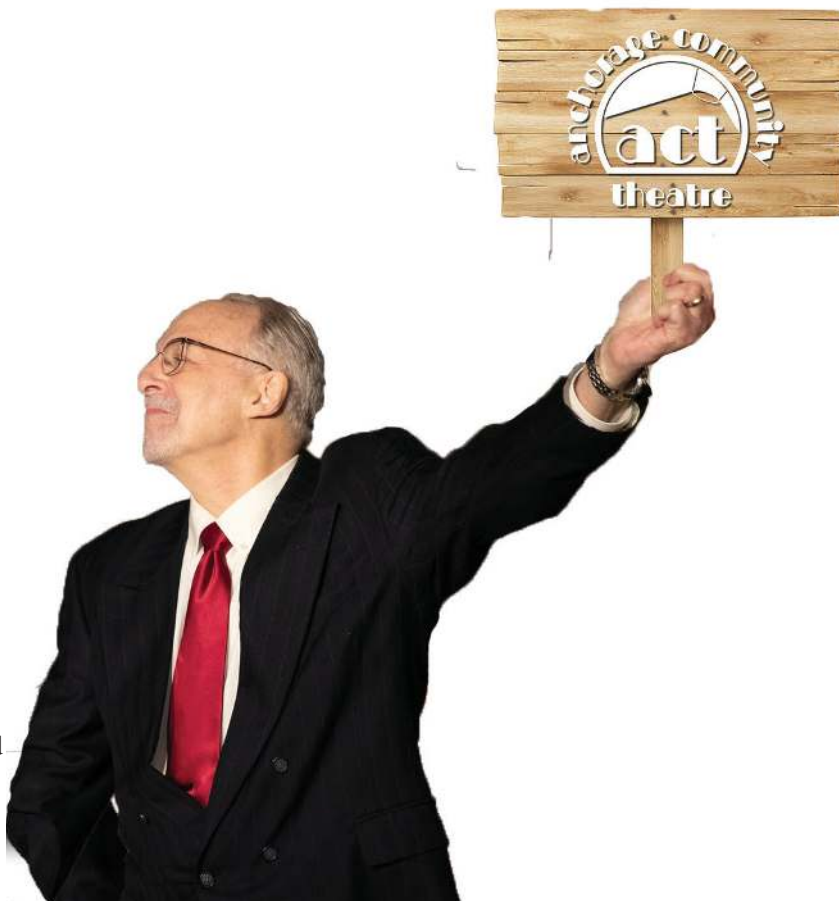
By Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Chamin

based on the popular comic strip by Harold Gray

December 2 - 11, 2022

With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. She is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of a New York City Orphanage that is run by the cruel, embittered Miss Hannigan. With the help of the other girls in the Orphanage, Annie escapes to the wondrous world of NYC. In adventure after fun-filled adventure, Annie foils Miss Hannigan's evil machinations... and even befriends President Franklin Delano Roosevelt! She finds a new home and family in billionaire, Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary, Grace Farrell, and a lovable mutt named Sandy.

Purchase tickets or donate to ACT by visiting actalaska.org.



WITH

By Carter Lewis

Directed by Teresa Pond

October 7 - October 23, 2022

Married for 60 years, Clifford and Minnie have reached the end of their days. But how will they find the time to make an exit when there are sheets to be folded, screws to be sorted, and a rat terrorizing the kitchen? Full of heartwarming eccentricities, WITH is a love story, a poignant comedy about trying to face the inevitable on your own terms.

Purchase tickets or donate to Cyrano's by visiting cyranos.org.



The Rocky Horror Picture Show

By Richard O'Brien

Directed by Lisa Willis and Warren Weinstein

October 7 - November 19, 2022

On a wild and rain-swept late-November evening, somewhere at an empty stretch of road outside Ohio's merry Denton, blissfully-affianced, prudish, boringly-innocent young pair Brad Majors and Janet Weiss find themselves stranded on their way to visit an ex-tutor. Instead, the couple will inadvertently unearth the cross-dressing Dr. Frank-N-Furter's spooky lair of inexhaustible oddities, just in time to partake in the out-of-this-world mad scientist's proud unveiling of his latest, delightfully extravagant, most daring creation: the ultimate male and the perfect sex symbol: the flaxen-haired Rocky Horror. But, little by little, as the effervescent transgressive force gobbles up whole the unsuspecting visitors of the night, Brad and Janet slowly begin to embrace the potent fascinations of seduction, while an idolized Rocky roams free in the mansion. Who can interrupt man's union with the absolute pleasure?

Purchase tickets at MadMyrnas.com



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Super Crossword

GOOD DOGS!

- ACROSS
- 1 Perfect places

8 Places

15 Firing noise

20 Italian province or its capital

21 Mobile's place

22 Goes the distance

23 "We were just talking about you!"

25 Roast's host

26 Early 1900s cars

27 The Raptors, on sports tickers

28 Up to, for short

29 Actor Everett of "Stardust"

30 In accordance with

33 Really big

36 Low-value billfold fillers

37 Yet to happen

41 Regular way of walking

43 Slacked off

44 "Your Song" singer John

46 Acquire

47 Martini's partner in winemaking

48 Exam for some jrs.

49 Acquire

52 Tally up

55 "The Ipcress File" novelist

56 Maiden-named

58 Bring items to someone as a server would

61 Italian province or its capital

63 Steeped quaff

65 Love god

66 Ouzo flavorer

67 Insist that formalities are observed

73 Extensive destruction

76 "Air kiss" sound

77 Crude

78 Greek god in a chariot

82 Make radical changes to the norm

87 Hi — graphics

89 Long time

90 Beige

91 Father of Taoism

92 Talk to a deity

94 Novelist Nin

96 Shade trees

97 Acknowledge

99 Wading birds

100 Relax briefly

105 No matter the consequence

107 A long time

108 1988 NFL MVP

110 Bearings

111 Loosened, as a skate

113 From — Z

114 Assist

115 "That's awful!"

119 Actor

120 Place to teach the eight commands featured in this puzzle

125 Rub away

126 Mopped, e.g.

127 Crouched

128 Relaxes

129 In a nervous way

130 Woven fabric

DOWN

1 Khrushchev's fed.

2 Sticky stuff

3 Butter substitute

4 Field laborers

5 Really bug

6 Year, in Rio

7 "Mister" of ice cream trucks

8 Bert of "The Wizard of Oz"

9 "Go, torero!"

10 Ill-bred dude

11 Assists in crime

12 Sumptuous

13 Actress de Ravin of "Lost"

14 Actor Mineo

15 — cheese dressing

16 Sendup

17 Liftoff follower

18 Hi-fi system

19 Feared fly

24 Swimmer

29 Installed anew, as flooring

31 Beer vessel

32 Prof's degree

33 Having a dull finish

34 Hurly-burly

35 Eschewer of animal products

37 "The Little Rascals" girl

38 Conical woodwinds

39 Had no life

40 Royal name of Norway

42 Soup holder

45 Mother-of-pearl

48 Hammer end

50 Norse god in a chariot

51 Nonlethal stunner

52 Jackie's hubby #2

53 HMO participants

54 Henna, e.g.

57 SFO guess

59 PC support givers

60 Writer Seton

62 Merits a "so-so"

64 Acknowledge

68 Antigen

69 Has

70 Actor Conrad of early films

71 Nanny Poppins

72 Have a debt

73 Pres. elected in '48

74 "Caught you!"

75 Boxy vehicle

79 Weaponize again

80 "Traffic" actress

81 Full of lip

83 Packed firmly

84 Gas pump attachments

85 Novelist

86 Grads' dance

88 Lucifer

93 Lacking vitality

95 Medium to poor

96 Least difficult

98 Lead-in to chic or hazard

99 Sow or cow

100 Dish under a cup

101 Brush aside

102 "Neon" tank swimmers

103 Prone

104 Triangular sail

106 Least narrow

109 Coke and Pepsi

112 Peepers

114 Roddick of tennis

116 Pueblo people

117 Yuletide tune

118 Dated, quaintly

120 Mo. with the birthstone opal

121 Suffix with opal

122 Fish that can be shocking

123 — Jeanne d'Arc: Abbr.

124 "Friends" co-star

Courteney
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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- LEGALS
- New restaurant or eating place license Palmeira tropical Fusión LLC is making application for a new AS 0.44. Liquor license doing business as Palmeira Tropical Fusior located at 323 barrow street, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage ask 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov AP# 276.
Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 9/29/22
- Ski Bum Ventures Inc. is making application for a new Restaurant or Eating Place AS 04.11.100 liquor license doing business as Basecamp Eatery located at 194 Hightower Rd., Girdwood, AK 99587. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov .
Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 9/15/22, 9/22/22, 9/29/22
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- PRESS A17

Let It Be Over

Dear Oskar,
I have been divorced for three years now. I did not want the marriage to end and I am still upset about it. I feel so ashamed that I can't stop these feelings. How can I get over this and just get on with my life already?!



ASK OSKAR
BY OSKAR SAVILLE

Dear Let It Be Over,
Thank you for being so vulnerable and sharing your pain with me. At the core of everything, we as humans just want to be loved, so when we lose that love it's painful. I wish I could tell you when these feelings would end, but life isn't like that. What I can help you with is how to embrace what you are going through—to see the blessing in feeling your feelings.

I was walking down the street the other day, when I heard a woman in front of me ask a small child she was with, "Why are you crying? Don't cry." My heart sank. Another generation being taught to push down and deny their feelings. It's almost a joke: "How do you scare another person? Tell them you want to talk about how you feel."

Feelings are part of how we process our experiences. For instance, if we don't allow ourselves to feel anger about being treated badly, we'll continue to end up in situations where we're treated badly because we don't understand that we ARE being treated badly. Think about it this way: We would never suggest anyone get rid of their nerve endings, because if they did, they would burn themselves over and over again while cooking.

So first, your feelings don't have to fit into a specific time frame. Restricting yourself only makes matters worse—the focus becomes getting it over rather than just allowing yourself to be, whatever that may mean. Everyone's process is different and each part of the process is important. Imagine it being like a loaf of bread. What would happen if you didn't give it time to rise? It wouldn't be great.

There are many ways to process our feelings, such as talking to someone who is loving, kind, and safe; journaling; crying; hitting a pillow or a punching bag; therapy; support groups; and even just allowing the feelings to be in our bodies. Many people are afraid that if they feel their sadness they'll stay that way forever. But it's not true. Feelings are like the weather—they don't stay the same forever. They will change.

Anytime you go through something good or bad it has an effect on you. It helps you grow as a person. You're probably not the same person you were after your wedding. You likely saw it as a good thing, so it was easy to process the feelings of going from being single to being married. Nevertheless, you were different from when you first met your spouse to after the wedding. By sitting and allowing yourself to feel your sadness, anger, happiness, and confusion, you will be able to see who you have become, going from someone married to unmarried (who is, no doubt, different from the unmarried person before your wedding). You also will be able to see what you want now in your life compared to what you wanted when you first got married, what worked for you in your marriage, what didn't, and more. If you stay the course, one day you will wake up and know that you have healed. It won't mean that you were never married and you'll forget it happened. Instead, it will mean that you are proud of your journey of feeling and ready to set out on a new path as someone who is stronger, wiser, and more loving to yourself and others.

I wish you the best on this journey of feeling, and I know you will be proud of yourself in the end.

Vote, from page A7

"The temporary regulation threatens to unleash electoral chaos," the complaint says, noting that "votes cast in different counties, different precincts, or different contests may be counted very differently."

Current Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske is term-limited. Jim Marchant, an election denier who is the Republican nominee to replace her, has been one of the most vocal forces behind the state's push to institute hand counting. He has said that if elected, he would ditch electronic vote machines.

Democrat Cisco Aguilar, who is facing Marchant in November, told States Newsroom that he worries about the future of elections in Nevada if Marchant wins.

"What he's doing is irresponsible and dangerous," Aguilar said. "He's not a serious leader but the threat he represents is extremely serious."

Esmeralda County in Nevada has also switched to hand counting, but the county is the least populous in the state with just 1,030 residents in 2020, according to U.S. Census data. Still, it took the county more than seven hours in the June primary to count 317 ballots.

At that rate, it would have taken Clark County, Nevada's most populous county, 6,375 hours, or more than 265 days, to hand count the 288,683 ballots cast in its June primary. Larger counties could no doubt devote more staff, volunteers, and resources to counting, but the process would undoubtedly require the county to miss the vote certification deadline.

The longer the public has to wait for election results, the more time candidates have to sow distrust in the results and for false theories and information to spread.

Outside Nevada

In Arizona, Republican gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake and secretary of state candidate Mark Finchem, both of whom have said that the 2020 election was stolen from Trump, filed a lawsuit with unfounded allegations about the security of electronic vote tabulators and seeking the hand counting of ballots.

They claimed that the lawsuit wasn't aimed at invalidating the 2020 election results—Cyber Ninjas, which conducted an audit of the vote in Maricopa County, conducted a hand count and found that Joe Biden actually won by more votes than the official margin—but instead about future elections.

In response to the lawsuit, election administrators testified that hand counting would be extremely expensive and require immense manpower. They also said that electronic voting machines aren't connected to the internet, and can't be hacked. A judge dismissed the suit in August, and Lake and Finchem have appealed that ruling.

If Lake and Finchem win in November, they'll be in a position to change how the state counts its ballots. Arizona law does not require the use of electronic vote counting machines. The secretary of state also has the power to decertify machines, so Finchem could do that and refuse to certify new ones.

In New Hampshire, groups opposed to electronic tabulators figured out a way to force election officials in large counties to hand count some ballots in Sept. 13's primary, despite the widespread use of AccuVote optical scan machines in the state which are not connected to the internet and cannot be hacked.

Conservative-leaning groups shared posts online urging voters to write in candidate names, even if the candidate was already printed on the ballot. Ballots with write-in candidates are separated for hand counting.

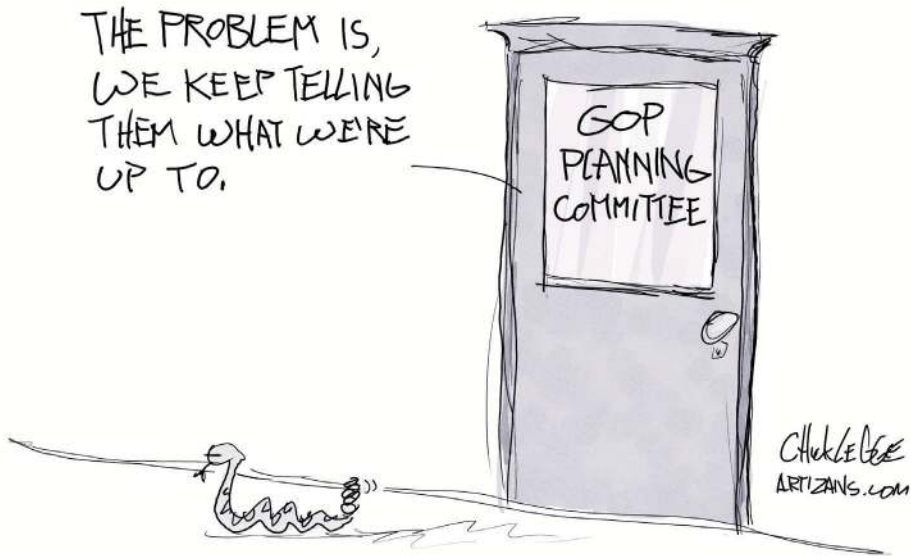
Secretary of State David Scanlan said the effort slowed down the release of results by hours in some counties.

"It really stresses the system when you have poll workers who have been at it for 12 to 16 hours now having to count all these ballots at the end of the night," Scanlan told a local reporter with the Keene Sentinel. "It probably increases the chances for errors."

Super Crossword

Answers

U	T	O	P	I	A	S		L	O	C	A	L	E	S		B	L	A	S	T
S	A	L	E	R	N	O		A	L	A	B	A	M	A		L	A	S	T	S
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Republicans in Congress say they’d keep federal abortion funding in cases of rape, incest

BY JENNIFER SHUTT
STATES NEWSROOM

WASHINGTON — A nearly 50-year-old federal law backed by Republicans allows the use of federal dollars for abortions in cases of rape, incest or the life of the pregnant person.

That so-called Hyde Amendment, which is folded into spending bills, is less stringent than new or planned abortion bans in some GOP-led states, where governors and lawmakers want to remove exceptions for rape and incest. In Missouri, for example, abortions are now permitted only in cases of a medical emergency. There are no exceptions for rape or incest under the state law.

But Republicans in Congress interviewed by States Newsroom said if they take control in the midterm elections, they expect to keep the Hyde Amendment intact in bills passed by Congress.

That means Medicaid patients and millions of other Americans who rely on federal health care programs—members of the military, federal employees, federal prisoners, veterans—may be able to continue to terminate pregnancies in cases of rape, incest or the life of the patient, possibly setting up a legal dispute between state criminal laws and federal funding provisions.

Oklahoma Rep. Tom Cole, the top Republican on the funding panel that includes the Hyde Amendment in its bills, said he believes “there’s a broad national consensus about” the three exceptions.

“I think we would be making a mistake to try and be overly aggressive in these areas,” Cole said. “Now, sometimes you put things in bills, knowing you’re gonna pull them out later to make a statement, or render a message. But again, I think on Hyde, status quo is what we should shoot for.”

Arkansas Sen. John Boozman said he thinks the Hyde amendment “should remain as it is.”

Florida Rep. Mario Díaz-Balart said Republican lawmakers should do the “same thing we’ve always done.”

“Remember, Hyde has been bipartisan until very recently. There’s always been an understanding that taxpayers’ funding should not go to fund abortions,” Díaz-Balart said.

Democratic objections

The first version of the Hyde amendment, in fiscal 1977, not long after the landmark Roe v. Wade decision created a constitutional right to abortion, didn’t include exceptions for rape or incest, only for the life of the pregnant person. It was named for Illinois Republican Rep. Henry Hyde, a strong opponent of abortion.

When drafting the fiscal 1979 legislation, U.S. lawmakers added in exemptions for rape or incest if the crime had been “promptly” reported to police or public health services.

The exceptions for rape and incest were removed between fiscal years 1981 and 1993, then added back in to the fiscal 1994 bill, this time without the reporting requirement, according to the Congressional Research Service.

More recently, the amendment has been the subject of tensions since Democrats took over control of Congress and the White House.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro, chair of the House Appropriations Committee, removed Hyde Amendment language from the original batch of spending bills Democrats released in the summer of 2021, calling the policy “discriminatory.”

“I know that this is an issue on which many of us disagree. But regardless of the original intent of Hyde, it has disproportionately impacted women of color and it has ultimately led to more unintended pregnancies, and later, riskier and more costly abortions,” DeLauro said during a committee markup.

“Quite frankly, allowing the Hyde Amendment to remain on the books is a disservice, not only to our constituents but also to the values that we espouse as a nation,” she added.

Senate Democrats removed those elements from their original batch of government funding bills as well, but they were all added back in to the conferenced versions that President Joe Biden signed into law.

The move represented a victory for Republican lawmakers that likely wouldn’t have been possible without the U.S. Senate’s 60-vote legislative filibuster, the same procedural hurdle that would likely block GOP lawmakers from making any changes to the Hyde Amendment if they wanted to.

Keep amendment intact

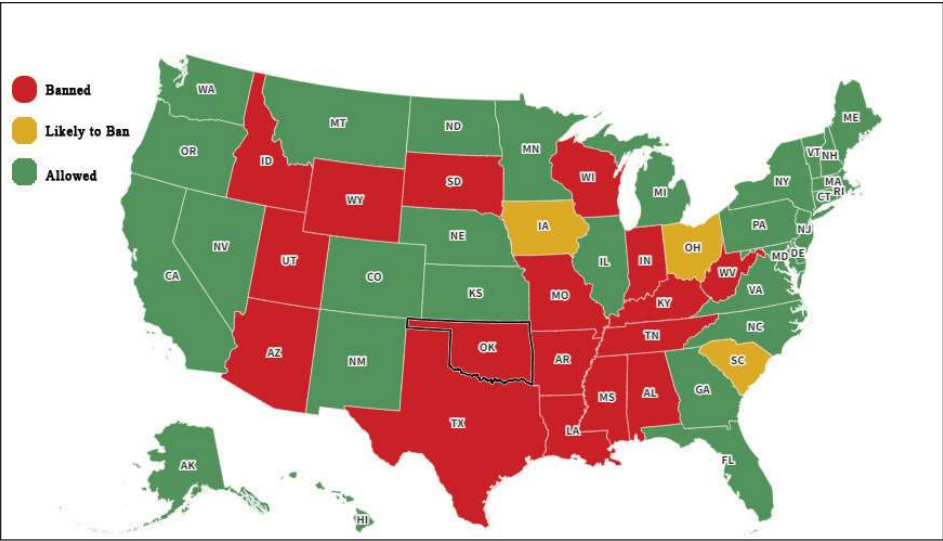
Republicans interviewed by States Newsroom nearly all said they want to keep the Hyde Amendment and its three exceptions for rape, incest, or the life of the pregnant person—the language in spending bills is “mother” or “woman”—as is.

“I don’t think we need to change it. But I think we need to make sure that it’s front and center,” said Kansas Republican Sen. Roger Marshall, who worked as an OB-GYN for more than two decades before being elected to Congress.

Marshall said he doesn’t think lawmakers need to change the language to say “life or health” of the patient because doctors have “plenty of leeway just the way it is.”

“If we expand it to health, I think it’ll be way too controversial, and they’ll use it to bring in other diagnoses,” Marshall said. “Look, every woman is stressed when they’re pregnant with anxiety, and they have nausea, but their life is not being threatened. So I would leave it just like it is.”

Cole didn’t want to comment whether the provision should say “life and health” of the pregnant person because he didn’t “want to be in a discussion at that level of detail right now” and because he hadn’t “thought about it.”



Cole did say that appropriators generally take a different approach to policy changes than their colleagues on other committees, in part, because the panel’s legislation must pass to avoid government shutdowns.

“Appropriations have to be bipartisan, so you can’t just come tell me what’s the best policy, you have to tell me what’s the best policy that can attract the Democrats’ support that I need to pass the bill,” Cole said.

“The president is still the president; he can veto anything. The Senate is still going to have the filibuster. And we’ll have a number of our members that won’t vote for any appropriations bill,” Cole added. “They’ll tell you what they want in them, they’ll yell and scream about what you’re doing, but they’re never going to be there. So in that situation, I have to have Democratic votes.”

Break with states

Republicans’ expectation party leaders won’t try to remove the Hyde Amendment’s exceptions for rape and incest would represent a break with some state lawmakers back home, who are advancing bills and enacting laws that would bar abortion access in those cases.

Some laws passed by conservative Republican state lawmakers, or in the works, muddy the waters around whether doctors can end ectopic pregnancies or treat miscarriages, which often require the same medications or procedures as elective abortions.

Whether women must carry pregnancies to term after a fatal fetal anomaly is diagnosed is also unclear in some Republican-held states following new abortion restrictions.

And doctors in those states have questioned exactly how unwell a pregnant patient must become before state laws will allow pregnancy termination, bluntly asking how much blood a woman must hemorrhage or how far an infection must spread before they could perform an abortion without risking prison time.

Republicans in Congress don’t seem inclined to go down that path with respect to when federal funds should be allowed for abortions.

Rep. Ken Calvert of California predicted that “Hyde’s not going anywhere” and the three exceptions will “probably” stay exactly as they are now, though he does expect the GOP will discuss it broadly if they regain control of the U.S. House.

“I’m sure there will be conversations, but I think it will stay in it,” he said, giving a firm “no” when asked if there’s any possibility the exceptions for rape and incest are removed.

Maryland Rep. Andy Harris became somewhat agitated when asked whether there’s a possibility the GOP would remove those two exemptions, saying he had no comment before commenting, “That’s ridiculous.”

“The premise is a completely unfounded premise,” Harris added.

Iowa Sen. Joni Ernst said if Republicans are back in control of the Senate next Congress, the GOP should “keep the Hyde Amendment.”

When asked if it should remain exactly as it is now, she added, “no taxpayer dollars should be going towards abortion.”

Missouri Sen. Josh Hawley said he was “for the Hyde amendment” and said he backs the three exemptions staying as they are now.

“I support those exemptions in abortion laws generally, so that’s my own personal position. So yes, I’m comfortable with them,” Hawley said.

Louisiana Rep. Julia Letlow said in a statement, she is “100% committed to fighting on the Appropriations Committee to ensure that longstanding pro-life protections such as the Hyde Amendment remain in place.”

Iowa Rep. Ashley Hinson said in a statement, she’s “proud to have helped lead the charge on the House Appropriations Committee to protect the longstanding, bipartisan Hyde Amendment.”

“It’s wrong to force taxpayers to fund abortions against their will, and next Congress, I’ll continue working to ensure that taxpayer dollars don’t go toward abortions,” Hinson said.

Less certainty

There are, however, some Republicans on Capitol Hill who aren’t entirely sure about their stance on the future of the Hyde Amendment.

Tennessee Sen. Bill Hagerty said he expects the Hyde Amendment will be retained, though he was less certain about his thoughts on removing exemptions for rape or incest.

“You know, I have not had an opportunity to talk with my colleagues about that at this point, so I don’t have any further light to shed on that,” he said. “We haven’t spoken as a conference about modifying the Hyde Amendment at this point.”

Kentucky Rep. Hal Rogers, former chair of the House spending panel and the dean of the chamber, said he didn’t know if a GOP-controlled Congress would move to remove the rape and incest exemptions.

“Well, we’ll see,” Rogers said.

Indiana Sen. Todd Young didn’t have an opinion on keeping the amendment as is or removing the exemptions for rape and incest, saying he hasn’t “given a lot of thought to it.”

“I’m thinking about the cost of living. That’s what most of my constituents are concerned about,” Young said.

Kansas Sen. Jerry Moran had similar sentiments, saying, “I have not even thought about it.”



ARIES: Poet Susan Howe describes poetry as an “amorous search under the sign of love for a remembered time at the pitch-dark fringes of evening when we gathered together to bless and believe.” I’d like to use that lyrical assessment to describe your life in the coming days—or at least what I *hope* will be your life. In my astrological opinion, it’s a favorable time to intensify your quest for interesting adventures in intimacy; to seek out new ways to imagine and create togetherness; to collaborate with allies in creating brave excursions into synergy.

TAURUS: Social reformer Frederick Douglass (1817-1895) had a growlery. It was a one-room stone cabin where he escaped to think deep thoughts, work on his books, and literally growl. As a genius who escaped enslavement and spent the rest of his life fighting for the rights of his fellow Black people, he had lots of reasons to snarl, howl, and bellow as well as growl. The coming weeks would be an excellent time for you to find or create your own growlery, Taurus. The anger you feel will be especially likely to lead to constructive changes.

GEMINI: “Conduct your blooming in the noise and whip of the whirlwind,” wrote Gemini poet Gwendolyn Brooks. I love that advice! The whirlwind is her metaphor for the chaos of everyday life. She was telling us that we shouldn’t wait to ripen ourselves until the daily rhythm is calm and smooth. Live wild and free right now! That’s always good advice, in my opinion, but it will be especially apropos for you in the coming weeks. Now is your time to “endorse the splendor splashes” and “sway in wicked grace,” as Brooks would say.

CANCERIAN: “Don’t look away,” advised novelist Henry Miller in a letter to his lover. “Look straight at everything. Look it all in the eye, good and bad.” While that advice is appealing, I don’t endorse it unconditionally. I’m a Cancerian, and I sometimes find value in gazing at things sideways, or catching reflections in mirrors, or even turning my attention away for a while. In my view, we Crabs have a special need to be self-protective and self-nurturing. And to accomplish that, we may need to be evasive and elusive. In my astrological opinion, the next two weeks will be one of these times.

LEO: Tips to get the most out of the next three weeks: 1. Play at least as hard as you work. 2. Give yourself permission to do anything that has integrity and is fueled by compassion. 3. Assume there is no limit to how much generous joie de vivre you can summon and express. 4. Fondle and nuzzle with eager partners as much as possible. And tell them EXACTLY where and how it feels good. 5. Be magnanimous in every gesture, no matter how large or small. 6. Even if you don’t regard yourself as a skillful singer, use singing to transform yourself out of any mood you don’t want to stay in.

VIRGO: In the coming weeks, you should refrain from wrestling with problems that resist your solutions. Be discerning about how you use your superior analytical abilities. Devote yourself solely to manageable dilemmas that are truly responsive to your intelligent probing. PS: I feel sorry for people who aren’t receptive to your input, but you can’t force them to give up their ignorance or suffering. Go where you’re wanted. Take power where it’s offered.

LIBRA: Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh was born under the sign of Libra. He said, “The root-word ‘Buddha’ means to wake up, to know, to understand; and he or she who wakes up and understands is called a Buddha.” So according to him, the spiritual teacher Siddhartha Gautama who lived in ancient India was just one of many Buddhas. And by my astrological reckoning, you will have a much higher chance than usual to be like one of these Buddhas yourself in the coming weeks. Waking up will be your specialty. You will have an extraordinary capacity to burst free of dreamy illusions and murky misapprehensions.

SCORPIO: I invite you to be the sexiest, most intriguing, most mysterious Scorpio you can be in the coming weeks. Here are ideas to get you started. 1. Sprinkle the phrase “in accordance with prophecy” into your conversations. 2. Find an image that symbolizes rebirth and revitalization arising out of disruption. Meditate on it daily until you actually experience rebirth and revitalization arising out of disruption. 3. Be kind and merciful to the young souls you know who are living their first lifetimes. 4. Collect deep, dark secrets from the interesting people you know. Employ this information to plan how you will avoid the trouble they endured. 5. Buy two deluxe squirt guns and two knives made of foam rubber. Use them to wage playful fights with those you love.

SAGITTARIUS: There’s an ancient Greek saying, “I seek the truth, by which no one ever was truly harmed.” I regard that as a fine motto for you Sagittarians. When you are at your best and brightest, you are in quest of the truth. And while your quests may sometimes disturb the status quo, they often bring healthy transformations. The truths you discover may rattle routines and disturb habits, but they ultimately lead to greater clarity and authenticity. Now is an excellent time to emphasize this aspect of your nature.

CAPRICORN: Let’s imagine you are in your office or on the job or sitting at your kitchen table. With focused diligence, you’re working on solving a problem or improving a situation that involves a number of people. You think to yourself, “No one seems to be aware that I am quietly toiling here behind the scenes to make the magic happen.” A few days or a few weeks later, your efforts have been successful. The problem is resolved or the situation has improved. But then you hear the people involved say, “Wow, I wonder what happened? It’s like things got fixed all by themselves.” If a scenario like this happens, Capricorn, I urge you to speak up and tell everyone what actually transpired.

AQUARIUS: To honor your entrance into the most expansive phase of your astrological cycle, I’m calling on the counsel of an intuitive guide named Nensi the Mercury Priestess. She offers the following advice. 1. Cultivate a mindset where you expect something unexpected to happen. 2. Fantasize about the possibility of a surprising blessing or unplanned-for miracle. 3. Imagine that a beguiling breakthrough will erupt into your rhythm. 4. Shed a few preconceptions about how your life story will unfold in the next two years. 5. Boost your trust in your deep self’s innate wisdom. 6. Open yourself more to receiving help and gifts.

PISCES : Author Colin Wilson describes sex as “a craving for the mingling of consciousness, whose symbol is the mingling of bodies. Every time partners slake their thirst in the strange waters of the other’s identity, they glimpse the immensity of their freedom.” I love this way of understanding the erotic urge, and recommend you try it out for a while. You’re entering a phase when you will have extra power to refine and expand the way you experience blending and merging. If you’re fuzzy about the meaning of the words “synergy” and “symbiosis,” I suggest you look them up in the dictionary. They should be featured themes for you in the coming weeks.



DAN SAVAGE’S SAVAGE LOVE

This is a preview of this week’s Savage Love. The full version is now exclusively available on Dan’s website [savage.love](#).

42-year-old dad here. I’ve been married for 12 years, and my marriage has been somewhat turbulent. But after some affairs—one where my wife screwed my best friend—and therapy, we reconnected, righted ourselves, and started a wonderful family. We both identify as bisexual now, and we are ethically non-monogamous. My question is this: my wife never seeks out other lovers, but I often do. She thinks looking for sex on apps is gross and won’t try it. She did recently suggest we become poly—that we date other couples together—only to shut that down after one date with another couple. She also kind of slut-shames me when I ask permission to hook up or date someone else. She wants to be open in theory, but she seems to be against it in practice. We communicate well and she continues to give me permission (but always after shaming me), and I check in regularly only to have her act annoyed when I inform her of each new adventure. I am not sure what to do.

- Often Practicing Ethical Non-monogamy

Has it occurred to you that maybe... just maybe... your wife doesn’t wanna hear about each and every one of your adventures? Or any of them? I mean, it seems clear to me she doesn’t want to hear about them. It’s all right there in your letter: your wife doesn’t enjoy discussing your dates, your hookups, your adventures, etc., and yet you persist in asking her and telling her.

You mention “some affairs” earlier in your marriage, OPEN, back before you came out to each other as bisexual and opened your relationship. But you only share the details of one: your wife fucked your best friend. That had to hurt. I’m glad you two got into therapy, managed to work through the fallout, got to a better place, and decided to start a family together. But I feel like I don’t have all the relevant information here—like whose idea opening up was (yours?) and your wife’s state of mind when she agreed (guilt-racked?)—which means I have no choice but to speculate...

You’ve been married 12 years, you started a family sometime after that turbulent period, which means your kid or kids are still young and may be very young. Your wife could be interested in other sex partners but lacks the energy for them right now, seeing as she’s doing... judging from your letter... way more than her fair share of the parenting. I mean, if you’re constantly running off on dates and hookups and having adventures and leaving her home alone with the kid(s), it’s possible that your wife is annoyed with you and you’re reading her annoyance as slut-shaming.

And if you proposed opening up the relationship and she agreed to it—after she fucked your best friend—maybe she doesn’t feel free to say no when you ask for permission to fuck someone else, which could also leave your wife annoyed. Annoyance that, again, you could be reading as slut-shaming.

At any rate, OPEN, if I were married to someone who agreed to open the relationship but who seemed annoyed or upset or slut-shamed me whenever I asked for their okay to go fuck someone else, I would have a few questions for my spouse: Do they want an open relationship at all? Did they ever? Do they still? And if they did and still do, would they prefer a DADT (“don’t ask, don’t tell”) arrangement over a TMFE (“tell me fucking everything”) arrangement?

I think a few check-in/check-up sessions with your couples’ counselor are in order here. Maybe your wife’s feelings have changed, after having a kid (or kids). Or maybe your wife—cheater though she was—would prefer a monogamous relationship after all. Or, hey, maybe your wife is happy for you to fuck other people but would like to see—at least while your kids are young—you dial back your adventuring and dial up your dadding.

But I can only speculate. Your wife knows. Ask her.

We’re a married straight couple. We were both readers of yours before we met more than ten years ago. But we’ve never written to you. We’re very happy! We’re also monogamous! And maybe that’s why we’ve never needed your advice!

- Successful Monogamy Unsung Good

So, monogamy was the answer all along? Dammit. I should’ve been able to work that out on my own. I mean, I’ve interviewed countless couples’ counselors and divorce lawyers over the years, SMUG, and not one has ever mentioned seeing a monogamous couple in their offices.

P.S. Did that feel good to share? I’m glad. But I’m guessing one of you drafted this email and the other co-signed. Was the drafter overcompensating for something? Was the cosigner able to add their name with a clear conscious?

P.P.S. I’m not trying to be a dick—it comes naturally—but you’re whistling past the world’s most densely populated graveyard here, i.e., the graveyard filled with marriages that weren’t what they appeared to be. So, hang on to my email address, SMUG. You might need it someday.



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Voted Best of Weed Maps

Why does weed give you the giggles?

BY EMMA STONE
LEAFLY

Studies exploring the connection between weed and laughter are few and far between. However, experts such as Peterson paint a broad picture of how cannabis influences the endocannabinoid system (ECS) and other bodily systems to trigger a laughing fit.

"The [endocannabinoid system] is the connection between all our different body systems," said Peterson. The ECS interacts with our endogenous opioid system, the system responsible for producing endorphins, the body's innate supply of opiates which are released when we feel pain, pleasure, or laugh.

It appears that THC interacts with certain endorphin receptors, making the endogenous opioid system more sensitive, explained Peterson. In other words, THC may make a person more primed to laugh.

Peterson suggests that cannabis may also influence oxytocin, a feel-good hormone that strongly influences social behavior. "Oxytocin is responsible for social reinforcement or the reward of being social," said Peterson. "In short, oxytocin promotes prosocial behaviors like smiling and laughing."

In general, weed works in diverse, complementary ways to create a context for laughter to come more easily. "The net effect is generally a disinhibition, or a softening, of our defense mechanisms," said Peterson. "This allows us to laugh more freely and enjoy the feeling of laughing."

However, it's important to note that tolerance and dosing also influence the degree to which cannabis makes us giggle, and low doses may be different than high doses. So if you've noticed that your weed-induced giggles are on the wane, it may be time for a reset.

While the science behind weed-induced laughter is scarce, dedicated cannasseurs claim that some cultivars just seem to induce laughter more, according to reddit. Some swear by cake strains, while others prefer Tangies.

According to Leafly reviewers, some of the most popular strains to give you the giggles include Blue Diesel, Chemdog, Sweet Diesel, Black Diamond, Mango Kush, Church OG, and the aptly named Laughing Buddha.

Dan Wilson, editor of Visit Hollyweed, believes the link between cannabis and laughter is facilitated by the plant's ability to boost mood. Anecdotal, many consumers also point to certain terpenes as promoting relaxation and a readiness to laugh. "Terpenes in cannabis can have antidepressant properties—such as linalool and beta-pinene," commented Wilson. Other stress-relieving terpenes, such as caryophyllene and myrcene, may also elevate mood and help you feel ready for some frivolity.

However, Wilson points out that too much THC can also lead to anxiety, which will, of course, dampen hilarity. In this case, the presence of CBD may help mellow out THC's effects.

Ultimately, deducing which specific compound in weed holds the key to laughter is overly reductionist. Instead, it's likely an entourage effect exists—the idea that the sum of all the compounds lead to certain effects. Set and setting likely also play a big role, which is why getting high in a group of friends is particularly funny.

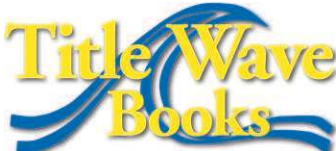
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Alaska sand dunes hint at ancient past

BY NED ROZELL

Sitting at a window seat on a recent flight from Seattle to Fairbanks, I looked down on Alaska from 35,000 feet.

There was my home river, the Tanana, flowing gray and braided from near the Canada border. The Alaska Highway followed the river's curves.

Near the town of Tok, a wedge of sharp hills looked different from the surrounding, more rounded ones. Alaska Highway 5 — the Taylor Highway — cut through the strange bumps.

The landform, accentuated by the glow of fall foliage, was a large sand dune complex. When you drive the 160-mile Taylor Highway to Eagle or use it to get to Dawson City in the Yukon, you notice a road cut where people over the years have set rocks in the sand to spell out their names.

I sent a window-seat photo of the scene to Dan Mann, a University of Alaska Fairbanks scientist. He said the Taylor Highway runs through sand dunes that formed a long time ago.

"You can see from their orientation that they were fed by sand blowing northwards off a barren and expanded Tanana (River) floodplain.

"The sand was coming from glaciers in the Wrangell and Nutzotin mountains to the south and east. There are smaller patches of dune all along the Tanana River up to the Canada border, and just across the border there is an enormous dune field that I think is much older."

The vegetated dune at the Taylor Highway turn is small compared to some in Alaska that make you feel you are in the Sahara, except for the moose tracks.

The Nogahabara Sand Dunes — west of the Koyukuk River and the villages of Hughes and Huslia — are a whitish splotch on the face of Alaska that covers 26 square miles.

Even larger and more visited for their proximity to the Kobuk River in northwest Alaska are the Great Kobuk Sand Dunes (38 square miles). Not far from them are the Little Kobuk Sand Dunes (5 square miles). Like the Nogahabara dunes, both sets of Kobuk dunes are active, still migrating via the wind at speeds up to three feet per



Pale sand dunes stretch out beyond a line of spruce trees in Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge. Thousands of years ago, sand exposed by receding glaciers drifted into large dunes against the Nulato Hills, known today as the Nogahabara Sand Dunes. Credit: Keith Ramos/USFWS

year. This movement smothers tree seedlings before they can make a go of it.

In a 1990 paper, Peter Lea and Chris Waythomas mapped out the active and inactive sand bodies in Alaska. Sand is just about everywhere that glaciers were not during the last ice age, but most of the dunes are now covered with trees and shrubs. Large sand deposits remain on Alaska's North Slope, the Seward Peninsula and all through Southwest and Interior Alaska (where the Taylor Highway dune is located).

In a study of the Nogahabara dunes, scientists including Mann wrote that one of the active dunes' values is continuing to host plants like an Asian sedge that are relics from the time of the Bering Land Bridge. The Nogahabara is also home to the sandy tiger beetle and the

Alaska tiny shrew, which are both found almost nowhere else in the state.

Sand deposits everywhere in Alaska harken back to a time thousands of years ago when big winds blasted fine particles of glacier-ground mountain a long way. It must have been an unpleasant time to be walking around Alaska, but scientists like Mann are fascinated with what it left behind.

"Alaska's sand seas are super interesting and poorly understood," Mann said.

Since the late 1970s, the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Geophysical Institute has provided this column free in cooperation with the UAF research community. Ned Rozell ned.rozell@alaska.edu is a science writer for the Geophysical Institute.

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Taking a look back at our state's first-ever Alaska Botany Bioblitz

CITY WILDS
BY BILL SHERWONIT

This past July, more than a hundred people roamed across the Alaska landscape, helping to document many of the plant species that inhabit our state. By the time the first-ever Alaska Botany Bioblitz ended, 118 participants had contributed some 11,000 observations and found more than 600 species of plants.

As I reported in July, the bioblitz was something of a botanical orgy, organized by the Alaska Native Plant Society (AKNPS) and intended to compile as many observations of Alaska's plants as possible between July 1 and July 31—and perhaps add to our collective knowledge of the state's community of plants (or rather communities, given the wide range of ecosystems that occur within Alaska).

To participate as an “observer” in Alaska's bioblitz—one of many projects conducted worldwide through the site www.inaturalist.org—a person could simply sign up online, then head outdoors and, equipped with a smartphone and the (free) iNaturalist app, upload images of wildflowers and other plants that occur in any part of Alaska. iNaturalist would then assist in identifying the various species, along with a human contingent of botanists and naturalists who serve as “identifiers.”

Nearly 300 people (288 to be exact) contributed their skills as identifiers for this bioblitz project, more than twice the number of in-the-field observers. That initially surprised me, because I'd much prefer to ramble through Alaska's wilds and find as many plant species as possible, rather than verify (through online images) what others have found. But as Aaron Wells of the AKNPS points out, “there are millions of iNaturalist users and they can weigh in on an ID from anywhere,” while observers had to be here in Alaska, actually looking for plants.

Here I'll summarize some of the more notable results from this inaugural Alaska Botany Bioblitz, using information compiled and generously shared with me by Wells, the society's treasurer and one of the bioblitz organizers.

When Wells analyzed the data in early September, bioblitz participants had contributed 11,039 plant observations (he noted that some late-arriving data would increase that number slightly). Of that number, 6,741 observations, or 61 percent, were considered “research grade.” That means at least two-thirds of the people who reviewed the plant (including the initial observer) agreed on its identity.

The “vast majority” of observations were located less than two miles from communities and Alaska's road system, with the greatest concentrations near major cities and towns, among them Anchorage, Juneau, Eagle River, Palmer, and Fairbanks. That made good sense to me, given that the iNaturalist app can only function where cell phone reception exists.

What I didn't know, until recently informed by Wells, is that “you can make observations in areas without cell service by taking geotagged photos (which most modern cell phones take), or take non-geotagged photos and record the location on a GPS and then upload the photos later.”

I suppose that's something I should learn how to do, before participating in any future iNaturalist projects.

Wells pointed out some “noteworthy exceptions” that demonstrate smartphones' geotagging capability: a few observations were made in the Steese National Conservation Area, approximately 75 miles northeast of Nome, and some also came from Misty Fjords National Monument in the Tongass National Forest east of Ketchikan, both locales presumably far from any cell phone service.

What surprises me now, given these new insights (new at least for me), is that more bioblitz observations didn't come from Alaska's remote wilderness. Were other partic-

ipants similarly unaware of the geotagging and GPS options?

Though few came from deep wilderness, bioblitz observations did stretch across the state, from the southern reaches of the Panhandle (Ketchikan and Misty Fjords) north to the high Arctic (Utqiagvik); and east-to-west from the town of McCarthy, near the Canadian border, to the northwest tip of Alaska's coastline, at Point Hope, an impressive geographic spread indeed.

The most observations recorded in a single day was 714, on July 3, shortly after the bioblitz began and during a holiday weekend.

Of the 6,741 research-grade observations, 99 percent were vascular plants, those that have specialized tissues to transport water and nutrients throughout the plant along with “the products of photosynthesis” (or so my online research tells me). Such plants typically have stems, leaves, and roots and they include wildflowers, trees, shrubs, grasses, sedges, and ferns. Among those thousands of observations, 641 distinct “species, subspecies, or varieties of vascular plants” were observed.

Though 641 seems like a substantial number for a far-north place like Alaska, Wells points out that it represents only 29 percent of the “approximately 2,200 species, subspecies, or varieties of vascular plants known to occur in Alaska.”

The five most commonly observed species—all of them vascular plants—were tall fireweed (135 research-grade observations), monkshood (80), northern yarrow (76), dwarf fireweed (73), and black crowberry (72).

The remaining 1 percent, or 59 research-grade observations, were nonvascular plants, which include mosses, liverworts, hornworts (collectively known to scientists as bryophytes), and algae. In all, 28 species of non-vascular plants were identified, 24 of them bryophytes and the other 4 algae. Those 24 bryophyte species represent a tiny percentage of the 1,100 or so known bryophyte taxa to occur in Alaska.

It's also worth noting that of the hundreds of plant species observed and identified, eight species are considered “rare” in Alaska. To give some perspective, Wells notes that Alaska's “rare plant list” includes 303 vascular plant taxa. Of course, being rare means such plants are hard to find, so it makes sense few would be found in an effort like this one.

Also of note is that 89 species of non-native plants were observed, scattered around our state (again it makes sense that so many non-native species were found since most observations occurred in or near urban areas).

Though the participation, observations, and species identification in this first-ever Alaska Botany Bioblitz is impressive, I'm even more impressed by the great number of plant species (and other taxa), both vascular and non-vascular, that bioblitz participants did not find, which to me reflects the amazing diversity of plants in our state's more remote landscapes, far from Alaska's communities and road system.

As to whether the Alaska Native Plant Society might organize future bioblitzes, the group's president, Elizabeth Bluemink, says, “We're considering that and we're encouraged that some of this year's participants are interested in helping out with future botany bioblitzes. We'd love to partner up with other organizations, too, if they are interested.”

My own hope is that any future Alaska bioblitzes will include increased observations from more remote parts of the state. That seems more likely to happen as low-tech people like me learn the ins and outs of photo geotagging, GPS, and other smartphone and iNaturalist capabilities—and more participants go deeper “into the wild” in their bioblitz ramblings.

Anchorage nature writer and wildlands/wildlife advocate Bill Sherwonit is a widely published essayist and the author of more than a dozen books, including “Living with Wildness: An Alaskan Odyssey” and “Animal Stories: Encounters with Alaska's Wildlife.” Readers wishing to send comments or questions directly to Bill may do so at akgriz@hotmail.com.



*Late blooming wild rose, Anchorage.
(Photo by Bill-Sherwonit)*

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